

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
 جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الراي

Volume 18 Number 5704 AMMAN SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1994, RABI' ALAWAL 25, 1415

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

AMMAN - ADEN

DIRECT FLIGHT EVERY WEDNESDAY
 AS OF SEPTEMBER 7TH
 FOR RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CALL 678321

ROYAL JORDANIAN

YOUR WINDOW ON THE WORLD

Man charged with threatening to kill Clinton

FALMOUTH, Massachusetts (AP) — A construction worker was charged with threatening to kill President Bill Clinton after he told a ticket agent he was traveling to Martha's Vineyard to carry out the assassination, police said.

Civil rights heroine Parks assaulted

DETROIT, Michigan (AP) — Rosa Parks, whose act of defiance on a bus earned her the title of "mother of the civil rights movement," was assaulted in her home Tuesday by a man who broke into her home, police said.

Solzhenitsyn rejects prize

MOSCOW (AP) — Alexander Solzhenitsyn has refused a literature prize from a Russian nationalist organization, saying other candidates need the award more.

California State Senate allows knives in schools

SACRAMENTO, California (AP) — A bill to allow children of the Sikh religion to wear ceremonial daggers to school won unanimous passage this week in the California State Senate.

Arafat, Rabin win Spanish peace prize

OVIEDO, Spain (AP) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel were awarded Spain's Prince of Asturias peace prize Friday for helping end decades of conflict in the Middle East. Considered the Spanish-speaking world's equivalent of the Nobel Peace Prize, the Prince of Asturias Award for International Cooperation went to the two men because they "opened a new path towards peace in the Middle East."

Regent calls for further study of decision to increase school fees

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Friday asked the government to study the decision to increase school fees. The Regent said the decision to increase school fees from JD 3 to JD 5 per student per scholastic year, which was made on Friday by the Government of Ajloun, was a "serious decision" that required further study.

The minister explained that the decision to increase school fees was made by the Government of Ajloun, which is responsible for the education of the region. The minister said that the decision was made after a long and difficult process, and that the government was now studying the decision to see if it was the best way to increase the quality of education.

Some parents told the Jordan Times that they were in favor of the decision to increase school fees. They said that the increase was necessary to improve the quality of education and to ensure that schools had enough money to pay teachers and to buy books and supplies.

(Continued on page 3)

Assad, Hrawi meet ahead of Christopher visit

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — President Hafez Assad and Lebanese President Elias Hrawi met Friday to discuss the Middle East peace process ahead of an expected new diplomatic mission by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Mr. Hrawi, accompanied by Prime Minister Rafik Hariri and Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri, drove to Damascus from Beirut. The two presidents met for several hours and discussed the current situation in the Middle East and the progress of the peace process.

Mr. Hrawi last visited Damascus June 14 to discuss peace moves with Mr. Assad. A week ahead of Mr. Christopher's fourth shuttle mission to the region this year seeking to revive stalled peace negotiations between Israel, Syria and Lebanon.

The Lebanese media has said that Beirut and Damascus feel they must coordinate their strategies since the PLO and Jordan separately signed

Syria criticises PLO

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Syria Friday renewed its criticism of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for signing separate peace accords with Israel which it said are flawed and weaken the Arab cause.

"These agreements have realised some Israeli dreams, but they fall short in providing peace, security and stability in the region," said the Al Baath daily, mouthpiece of the ruling Baath Party. The newspaper said that the PLO-Israel accords have harmed the Arab cause and undermined its negotiating positions in the U.S.-sponsored Middle East peace talks that began in October 1991.

The PLO and Israel signed a landmark accord last September after months of secret negotiations in Norway. The agreement provides for limited Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Syrian criticism came as PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat is facing growing Palestinian discontent with his authoritarian leadership and his failure to secure funds desperately needed to get his Palestine National Authority, which will administer the self-rule zones until parliamentary elections can be held.

Al Baath reiterated that Syria will not be dragged into making a separate deal with Israel. "No one can impose on Syria settlements or solutions that do not restore full national Arab rights and maintain Arab dignity," it said.

Another government daily, Al Thawra, warned that peace cannot prevail in the Middle East without the full restoration of all Arab land occupied by Israel.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, surrounded by Ajloun citizens after performing prayers (Petra photo)



A policeman and a secret service agent (right) search two pedestrians in front of the conference hall (background) which will host the U.N. World Conference as of Monday.

2 killed, hundreds arrested in feud over Cairo conference

CAIRO (Agencies) — Police on Friday shot dead three Muslim militants suspected of killing a Spanish teenager in an attack on a tourist bus last Friday in a dawn shootout at an apartment block in Sohag, 500 kilometres south of Cairo, they said.

The three who were suspected of killing a 13-year-old Spanish boy in an attack on a tourist bus last Friday in a dawn shootout at an apartment block in Sohag, 500 kilometres south of Cairo, they said.

Police surprised the militants during a search for a gunman who killed two guards at a church overnight in Qafat, about 450 kilometres south of here.

Twenty-one more militants linked to last Friday's tour bus attack were also arrested in southern Egypt in an operation which police said smashed a new cell set up to carry out attacks.

Police added that they found guns, ammunition and communication equipment like fax machines in the apartment building. Last Friday Muslim militants ambushed a tourist bus travelling through Qena province with 11 Spanish tourists, killing the teenager and wounding four others, including his parents.

The outlawed militant Gamaa Islamiyya on Saturday claimed the murder of the teenager and warned foreigners to stay away from the U.N. World Population Conference in Egypt's capital.

Pablo Usan was the first tourist to be killed by militants since a German woman was shot and fatally wounded on board of a Nile cruise boat on March 4.

The warning from Gamaa came after a lull of several months following widespread arrests.

U.S. may invade Haiti any time: Boutros Ghali

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) — The United States has the right to intervene militarily in Haiti at any time, without issuing an ultimatum, to oust the ruling junta, U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali said Friday.

In an interview with AFP, Mr. Boutros Ghali said the U.N. mandate on Haiti allows U.S. officials to launch an invasion "when they want."

Mr. Boutros Ghali said that the U.N. role in Haiti is on hold for now "unless there is a new resolution," noting that the U.N. had abandoned its diplomatic efforts on Haiti.

"The United Nations has given a mandate to a group of states to act and it is up to them to decide," the U.N. chief said.

Suggestions of a possible U.S. invasion of Haiti have increased after the failure of a U.N. mission last month aimed at mediation. Several U.N. resolutions have urged the military to step aside and allow the restoration of democratic rule, and the latest authorises a U.S.-led force to remove the junta.

Mubarak rules out reconciliation with Iraq

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak was quoted Friday as saying he did not believe reconciliation with Iraq was possible as long as Saddam Hussein remains in power.

In an interview with the London-based Al Hayat newspaper, Mr. Mubarak also denied reports that he was working with the United Arab Emirates to try to end Iraq's isolation.

Iraq has been ostracised by the West and much of the Arab World since its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait. Egypt was part of the U.S.-led coalition that drove it out the following spring.

Asked if reconciliation was possible while President Saddam remains the leader of Iraq, Mr. Mubarak told the paper: "It seems so to me that nobody accepts to deal with him."

Share prices drop at AFM

By Khaled Zubeidi
 Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The share price index at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) has retreated 3.1 points (2.1 per cent) last week as the market witnessed a series of losses.

Accumulated losses since the beginning of the year and until last week were 7.2 per cent. Industrial shares suffered the largest loss as they fell 12.53 per cent since the beginning of the year.

A series of political and financial factors weighed down on the Jordanian shares beginning with the obstacles facing the Israeli-Jordanian peace talks and ending with the proposals to amend the income tax law which stipulated taxing profits on share dealings carried out by companies.

Dealers at the market have cautioned against big investors leaving the AFM as well as banks' unwillingness to enter into new deals. Major dealers whose portfolios are estimated at millions of Jordanian dinars have started a gradual withdrawal from the market with major sales on Wednesday.

One dealer told the Jordan Times it was not the right time to withdraw from the market but that losses that might be incurred later "could prove intolerable."

The AFM has suffered since July 1993 because of administrative decisions and financial procedures imposed by the Central Bank of Jordan. These procedures, followed by the Oslo accords, the Jordanian-Israeli peace talks and signs of strain in

Campaigning for Palestinian elections kicks off

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

JERICHO — It has been only three months since Palestinian self-rule was introduced to the West Bank town a few kilometres west of the Jordan River but political campaigning has already begun among more than a dozen political groups expected to vie for power in a post-election Palestinian National Authority (PNA).

Businessmen as well as politicians now travel through the West Bank bargaining over political favours rather than the price of vegetables or real estate.

Fateh, FIDA and pro-Jordanian politicians as well as anti-Oslo accord groups such as Hamas and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), have all begun to lobby community leaders, youth and the business community.

No one quite believes that the elections, which PNA officials say are set for Dec. 15, will take place on time. But local politicians are preparing for the first elections in recent history.

West Bank and Gaza Palestinians have two main

concerns, economic development and employment and political freedoms.

While the former has been on the mind of people for decades the latter has become a real issue for debate since the PNA took over some three months because several clearly undemocratic decisions have been made by PNA President Yasser Arafat.

Two newspapers have been closed because they were not deemed sufficiently loyal, while the local broadcasting corporation "has become like that of all other Arab countries — the first ten items are dedicated to what the leader did today," said Nasser Abu Atiyeh, a 22-year-old Al Quds University student who spent three years in Israeli jails because of his pro-Fateh loyalties.

Local Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that were headed by people now close to Mr. Arafat or part of his government have become appendages of the PNA against their own better judgement.

Palestinian Human Rights Information Centre (PHRIC) was formerly associated with Faisal Hussein's Research Centre

on East Jerusalem. After Hussein became a member of the Arafat government, the PHRIC attempted to stay an independent organisation, but Mr. Arafat refused. The organisation's head, Jan Abu Shakra duly resigned in protest.

With the exception of traditional political leaders most Palestinian politicians who are not associated with the PNA have little financial power and thus have great difficulty in "making things happen." But political programmes advocating democratic freedoms, power sharing between political groups and a legal framework guaranteeing due process in law and government are all on the political agenda of parties such as the Palestine People's Party (PPP), FIDA, the PFLP and even Hamas.

"Most people in the West Bank and Gaza are looking for a mechanism by which Arafat could be given an honorary position — like that of the president of Israel — something purely symbolic with which he can kiss people and shake hands but have no real power," said one long time human rights activist in Ramallah.

"Political organisations are preparing themselves



When Palestinian students start school for the first time in 27 years, the Palestinian National Authority will be in charge of their education (AFP photo)

for a world that is very different from the one the PNA is setting up in Gaza," said a PPP activist in Ramallah.

"We don't want anything bad to happen to us. We want to promote him to an 'above-it-all' post in which he will be happy and our lives are allowed to develop," said the PPP activist.

While ruling Gaza, in particular, is a matter of concern for most of the political groups active in

the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, it is in the political and demographic centres of the West Bank — Nablus, Ramallah, Hebron and Jerusalem that most hope to plant the seeds of political change and development.

They are the traditional centres for most Palestinian politicians planning government and business future.

No one is quite sure when the PNA will take

over the West Bank or East Jerusalem, but many political and business leaders are already preparing for the time that will bring greater self-rule.

Eight branches of Jordan-based banks have opened up in different West Bank towns and cities in the past month. Almost all are offering wide-ranging loans for small business ventures as well as much-needed housing projects.

Algerian deportees from Morocco arrive in France

MARSEILLE, France (Agencies) — More than 1,000 people, most of them French-based Algerians or French nationals of Algerian origin, docked here on Friday after being deported from Morocco.

The 1,100 people, who arrived from Oran, Algeria, aboard the Algerian ferry Zerkala, were expelled from Morocco amid fears of the spread of Islamic fundamentalist violence from Algeria.

Another ferry, the Tipaza, left Oran for Alicante at the same time, with another 1,000 on board.

A total of 10,000 tourists have been expelled from Morocco since the murder of two Spanish tourists in Marrakech on August 24.

French police were on Friday still questioning 21 out of 27 people, mostly French Algerians and Moroccans, rounded up on Thursday at a Moroccan request made via Interpol, in connection with the killings.

The 27, arrested in the Paris area and at Orleans, were connected to four French nationals of Algerian and Moroccan origin arrested in Morocco for the murders, Interior Minister Charles Pasqua said.

The 27 were linked to French Algerian Stephane Ait Idr, 22, and French Moroccan Redouane Hammadi, 24, who live in the Paris suburb of La Courneuve, and Kamal Benachra, who lives in Orleans.

A fourth Parisian, French Moroccan Abdesslam Gherrouas, was arrested in Morocco.

Morocco imposed a visa requirement on Algerian nationals last week after the killings. Algeria closed its land border in retaliation and said Moroccans would need visas.

France this week deported 20 alleged Islamic militants to Burkina Faso for allegedly

supporting terrorism and imposed severe visa restrictions on Algeria, where Islamic fighters are trying to overthrow the military-backed regime.

In an interview with AFP in the lobby of the OK Inn, in the Burkina capital Ouagadougou, where the Islamists — 19 men and one woman — are staying, they confirmed they were all members of Algeria's Islamic Salvation Front, which is waging an armed rebellion against that country's military-backed regime.

"We are here for 15 days at the minimum but, even if France allows some of us to return, we will not go back, it is a question of pride," Rachid Tounsi said.

Djaffar Al Houari, president of the Algerian Brotherhood in France, said he was relieved he had left France which, he said, "makes pronouncements on what goes on in Algeria as if it is a region of France or an overseas territory."

Another militant who wished to remain unidentified said the government of Burkina Faso had provided a "service" to France. "But also to us, the future government of Algeria," he added.

On Thursday, the French Foreign Ministry revealed that a businessman of dual French-Algerian citizenship has been shot dead a week ago in the western Algerian town of Oran.

Rene Bouhanna, who owned a fish canning company, was killed outside his home. He had lived in Algeria since before independence from France in 1962.

No one claimed responsibility for the attack. The killing, which had not been reported previously, took to 17 the number of French nationals killed since the militant Islamic armed group (GIA) told foreigners to leave the country or face death.

Also Thursday, Hassan Al Turabi, the leader of the Sudanese fundamentalists, called on France to urge the Algerian government to

smooth its relations with the FIS.

He gave interviews to several French dailies in which he blamed the European Union, and notably France, for accepting the cancellation of elections in Algeria.

Mr. Turabi said French officials had asked him to intervene with the FIS on France's behalf. He said "French officials asked me to intervene to help secure a settlement and an improvement in relations with the FIS."

"It is now up to these countries to convince the Algerian government to negotiate. They have enough ways of applying pressure," Mr. Turabi said.

Mr. Turabi said France was increasingly alone in supporting the Algerian government. He said "the Americans and the British don't, and Italy and Spain are in favour of a negotiated solution."

Mr. Turabi told InfoMatin that he had already discussed the issue with Europeans including French officials. "Each time I drew their attention on the need to talk to the fundamentalists. Both they and the government have given encouraging signs recently."

French Interior Minister Pasqua said, he did not believe France had "solicited" Mr. Turabi's help.

"I don't believe at all that France intervened. It is none of our business, it's up to the Algerians to sort their own affairs out."

But he told the Europe-1 radio station that France would welcome "a really democratic government which has the widespread support of the population in Algeria."

Mr. Turabi, the rector of the Khartoum law faculty and "guide" of the Sudanese fundamentalists, finished his constitutional and international law doctorate in France. "When I returned to Khartoum, I decided to work towards establishing privileged relations with France," he told InfoMatin.

Rafsanjani defends achievements

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran's president Friday defended his record after more than five years in office, saying the country had become self-sufficient to an extent that even U.S. economic sanctions cannot hurt it, Tehran Radio reported.

The broadcast, monitored in Cyprus, quoted Mr. Hashemi Rafsanjani as saying that "the situation today is such that even if the entrance gates to the country were shut it would create no real difficulty."

He said it was "this reality that banishes the thought of economic sanctions against Iran from the mind of arrogance."

Iranian leaders commonly use that epithet to refer to the United States.

Mr. Rafsanjani, speaking in a sermon at Tehran University, said the pace of post-war reconstruction was good. Despite his defence, Iranians are unimpressed with

his administration. He won a second four-year term in June last year — against lackluster candidates — with a promise to galvanise the moribund economy and improve living conditions for Iran's 60 million population.

But the collapse of oil prices last winter sent prices tumbling to less than \$13 a barrel. Oil exports are the mainstay of the Iranian economy.

The slump and foreign debts of more than \$20 billion have put increased economic pressures on Iranians, most of whom live in poverty.

All this year, the government has been plagued by unrest believed to have been inspired by public frustration with the economy.

In February, during celebrations marking the 15th anniversary of the 1979 Islamic revolution, Mr. Rafsanjani was the target of an assassination attempt,

according to Iranian officials. Last month violence was reported in the northwestern city of Qazvin, where protesters went on a rampage, trashing shops, banks and government buildings.

Washington has sought, with little success, to persuade its allies to isolate Iran on the grounds it allegedly sponsors international terrorism.

Iran has said that despite the rhetoric the United States remains among the top buyers of its oil.

Mr. Rafsanjani was elected president in July 1989, a few weeks after Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, founder of the Islamic revolution, died of cancer.

At that time, Iran also was recovering from the 1980-88 war with Iraq, which caused about one million casualties on both sides and demolished Iran's military and key economic installations.

Iran: Argentina 'apologised'

TEHRAN (R) — Iran said on Friday Argentina had made a noble gesture by "apologising" for accusing Iranian officials of bombing an Argentine Jewish centre.

The withdrawal of the charges against four Iranian officials disgraced the United States and Israel, which wanted to make a basis from the cases "to condemn us in international bodies for years," President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said.

Argentina, which had threatened to break diplomatic ties with Iran over the bombing that killed 96 people, sent Iran a conciliatory letter on Wednesday, eight days after it dropped charges against the four for lack of evidence.

"The Argentine foreign ministry has sent us a letter of apology," Mr. Rafsanjani said in a mass prayer sermon.

"It does not contain the word 'apology', but (it amounts to the same thing) when the foreign ministry writes a conciliatory letter while until recently they accused us of going there and

exploding a bomb," he said. "I was surprised how quickly a government can make a U-turn. This is of course a noble gesture, but the United States and Israel insisted that Argentina should not make this turnaround. It is a scandal, a disgrace for the United States and Israel."

Israel and Washington blamed Iran for the July 18 explosion in Buenos Aires even before the result of the initial Argentine investigation implicating the Iranians was made public.

The United States publicly pledged to back Argentina if it severed diplomatic relations with Tehran.

Last week U.S. President Bill Clinton condemned Iran as the world's "leading state sponsor of terrorism."

Washington has not commented on the withdrawal of the Argentine charges.

Charges were based on testimony of Manouchehr Motamery, an Iranian seeking asylum in Latin America. He was first billed as a former diplomat but his testimony



Rafsanjani was later questioned. Tehran said Mr. Motamery was a shopkeeper wanted for fraud and forgery by Iranian courts who posed as a former diplomat or senior civil servant.

Mr. Rafsanjani said the episode showed "our enemies are so empty-handed in finding something to stick on us that they resort to anyone, even a fraudster."

He also chided the Western countries involved because "for all their claims of having reliable intelligence, they could not figure out whether he (Motamery) was a diplomat, a deputy minister, or what."

Palestinian refugees support King's policy

AMMAN (Petra) — Refugee notables from three Palestinian refugee camps in and around Amman Thursday voiced their absolute support for His Majesty King Hussein's policy at the national level, and lauded the King's untiring efforts to lay down the foundations for a democratic society characterised by freedom, justice and respect for human rights.

Speaking at a rally held at Al Wihdat refugee camp and attended by Lower House of Parliament Speaker Taher Masri, representatives of the Palestinian refugees said the proclamation of King Hussein as King of Jordan on Aug. 8, 1952 was a distinguished historic event.

Bahjat Shihab of the Wihdat Club said that King Hussein has dedicated his life to the building of Jordan where freedom and human dignity are preserved.

Hamadeh Fara'neh, president of Al Hussein Camp's Youth Centre said that King

Hussein's accession to the Throne was a dear occasion to all Jordanians and said the residents of Al Hussein Camp were jubilant for joining the two other camps in celebrating this occasion.

The creation of the Palestinian authority in Gaza, Jericho, to be spread to occupied West Bank and Jerusalem later, has foiled Israel's plan to establish a greater Israel on the entire Palestinian territories, Mr. Fara'neh said.

The peace accord with the Palestinians, despite its unjust conditions and provisions, has also foiled the alternative land project. It confirmed that Palestine is the land of Palestinians and Jordan is the land of Jordanians.

'Trilateral committee met in Washington'

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The United States State Department spokesman Michael McCurry has confirmed that the U.S.-Israeli-Jordanian trilateral economic committee held what he called an "informal meeting" in Washington August 31.

He described the meeting as a follow-up to expert-level talks held recently in Jordan and said they were designed to build on previous discussions held by the trilateral economic committee.

"They are looking specifically at the Jordanian Rift Valley development project.

That's been the focus of the talks today," especially "concrete, practical things" that can assist in the development, McCurry said. "I don't want to get into the specifics while they continue to talk," he added.

Jordan was represented by Fayez Tarawneh, ambassador to the United States, while the Israelis were led by Elyakim Rubenstein, head of Israel's team for bilateral negotiations with Jordan. Dennis Ross, U.S. coordinator for the Middle East peace process, led the U.S. delegation.

Fundamentalists destroy Aden's mausoleums

ADEN, Yemen (AFP) — Muslim fundamentalist militia men ransacked mausoleums in the southern Yemeni city of Aden on Friday, charging they were un-Islamic, eyewitnesses said.

Dozens of bearded men armed with anti-tank rockets and automatic weapons burst into a mosque in the centre of Aden and destroyed the mausoleum of a leading Yemeni religious figure.

The militants fired in the air to create panic and went on to ransack the tomb of Al Aidarus, a cleric who died some 400 years ago. Security officers arrived on the scene too late.

The mosque's administrator, Abdul Qader Al Aidarus, told AFP that the gunmen belonged to the Islamic Jihad (holy war) militia. Police said Jihad members

had pillaged mausoleums in other districts of the port city the same day.

Aden, the former stronghold of the southern Yemeni Socialist Party, became a centre of Islamic fundamentalist activity after it fell to northern troops loyal to President Ali Abdullah Saleh on July 7.

The city's capture marked the end of a two-month civil war between southern troops and Mr. Saleh's forces, which erupted on May 5.

During the war, Yemeni authorities announced the arrest of more than 100 Jihad members.

The group, which has several training camps in north Yemen, has also been accused of carrying out a string of bomb attacks in 1992 on Aden hotels used by foreigners.

Moroccan Jews celebrate links with old country

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel's 450,000 Jews of Moroccan origin celebrated Friday the diplomatic breakthrough with Rabat as a chance to renew links with the "old country."

"It's an historic day which gives us the opportunity to rediscover our roots," said Ahaaron Nahmias, president of the Association of Moroccan Jews.

"Our happy childhood memories of a time when we lived as brothers with the Moroccan people have come back to us today," he said, visibly moved.

Israel and Morocco announced Thursday that they were to open liaison offices in Tel Aviv and Rabat, in a first step towards establishing full diplomatic relations.

The 450,000 first and second generation Moroccan Jews who flooded into Israel in the 1950s have clung to their cultural identity.

Families cook Moroccan-style, celebrate family occasions in age-old tradition and dance to the music of Moroccan bands in the nightclubs of Tel Aviv and surrounding towns.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 73111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

17:00 Coup De Bleu Dans L'Etoile
17:11 Fantomette
17:30 Le Monde Sous L'Amour
18:30 News in French
18:45 Ushuaia
19:00 News in Hebrew
19:30 Dimenson
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Movies, Games, and Videos
21:00 One To One
21:30 The Campbell
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "Happy New Year"

PRAYER TIMES

04:47 Fajr
06:09 Sunrise
12:35 Dhuhr
16:11 Asr
19:05 Maghrib
20:27 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Swedish, Tel. 817734
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church, Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation, Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church, Tel. 641757

Terrace Church Tel. 622266

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 625443

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 625443

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 625226

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 624328

German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195

The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932

Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather conditions will prevail with winds north-westerly moderate. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp. Amman: 20 / 31

Qadisiyah: 25 / 39

Jerusalem: 13 / 26

Jordan Valley: 24 / 38

Yesterday's high temperatures:

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Amman 31, Aqaba 38 Humidity readings: Amman 30 per cent, Aqaba 19 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Ghazi Zawaideh 736011
Dr. Yousef Nizar 751144
Dr. Fakher Bilal 663412
Dr. Khalid Asfour 666873
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778356
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Naloukh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636750
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660
Najih pharmacy 847652
Najid:
Dr. Ali Shogairi 246140
Aljoudi pharmacy (-)
ZARQA:
Dr. Khalil Abu Hussein 965000
Khalifeh pharmacy 925417

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Immediate 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 199

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade 617101

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 845402

Traffic Police 896390

Public Security Department 63021

Hotel Complaints 605800

Price Complaints 661176

Water and Sewerage 897467

Amman Municipality 910230

Complaints 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 910230

Central Amman Telephone 623101

Repairs 661101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 723111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 615615

Electric Power Company 636361

RJ Flight Information 98-5320

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53300

Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 6442816

Akileh Maternity, J. Amn 64241/2

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362

Malhas, J. Amman 636140

Palestine, Shmeisani 6641714

Shmeisani Hospital 669131

University Hospital 845845

Al-Muasher Hospital 6672779

The Islamic, Abdali 66612737

Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646

Italian, Al-Muhajreen 7771013

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 7751126

Army, Marka 89161115

Queen Alia Hospital 60224050

Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:

Refugees support King's policy

Refugees in and around Amman have expressed their support for the King's policy of peace and reconciliation. The King's accession to the Throne was a dear occasion to all Jordanians and residents of Al Firdos Camp were jubilant for celebrating the occasion. Fara'neh, a prominent nationalist, said the peace process that the King is spearheading has followed the path of the King's policy of peace and reconciliation. The creation of the Palestinian authority in Gaza and Jericho, to be spread to the occupied West Bank and Jerusalem later, has followed the King's policy of peace and reconciliation. The King's policy of peace and reconciliation is the only way to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. The King's policy of peace and reconciliation is the only way to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.



FRIDAY PRAYERS IN AJLOUN: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, attends Friday prayers at Ajloun Mosque with other worshippers and listened to a sermon delivered by Sheikh Fathi Al Qudah. Sheikh Qudah said all the nation stands behind the Hashemite leadership in its endeavours to establish a just, lasting and comprehensive peace that guarantees the rights of Muslims in the holy places.

Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs to prepare an integrated plan for the restoration of Ajloun Mosque and to include it in the projects covered by the royal commission for the restoration of mosques and tombs of the Prophet Mohammad's companions and the martyrs. The Ajloun Mosque was built in 1247 A.D. upon orders from King Saleh Najmul Deen Ayoub. The mosque's minaret was built upon orders by Al Dahar Belhars in 1263. The mosque was restored from inside upon orders by His Majesty King Hussein during the first years of assuming his constitutional powers. The height of the mosque's minaret was raised from 18 metres to 40 metres upon orders by King Hussein in 1962 (Petra photo).

al committee in Washington

That's been the focus of the talks today, especially "concrete, practical things" that can assist in the development, McCurry said. "I don't want to get into the specifics while they continue to talk," he added. Jordan was represented by Fayez Tarawneh, ambassador to the United States, while the Israelis were led by Elyakim Rubenstein, head of Israel's team for bilateral negotiations with Jordan. Dennis Ross, U.S. coordinator for the Middle East peace process, led the U.S. delegation.

ESCWA, Arab League organise meeting for world summit on social development

AMMAN (I.T.) — In preparation for the World Summit on Social Development, to be held in Copenhagen in March 1995, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the Arab League are organising a preparatory expert group meeting as a step towards formulating a draft Arab Declaration for Social Development, an ESCWA statement said. According to the statement, other co-sponsors of the meeting, which will take place at Amman's Philadelphia Hotel between Sept. 19 and 22 are the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organisations (AGFUND), and the Arab Labour Organisation (ALLO). The three core themes of the summit — alleviation and reduction of poverty, expansion of productive employment, and enhancement of social integration — will be discussed during the meeting. In addition, a fourth agenda item — the cultural dimension of social development — which was introduced by ESCWA and the League of Arab States, will also be addressed, the statement said. The expert group meeting aims to monitor the situation in the Arab World regarding poverty, employment and social integration, in order to develop a unified Arab stance on these issues. This would enable the Arab states to develop the proper policies to address any shortcomings and imbalances. Finally, the meeting will issue recommendations and a final report, which will be used to formulate a draft Arab Declaration for Social Development, said the statement. The draft declaration will then be submitted to the Council of Arab Ministers for Social Affairs for adoption during the council's coming regular session in December 1994.

Italians destroy mausoleums

had pillaged mausoleums in other districts of the port city the same day. Aden, the former stronghold of the southern Yemeni Socialist Party, became a centre of Islamic fundamentalist activity after it fell to northern troops loyal to President Ali Abdullah Saleh on July 7. The city's capture marked the end of a two-month civil war between southern troops and Mr. Saleh's forces, which erupted on May 5. During the war, Yemeni authorities announced the arrest of more than 100 Jihad members. The group, which has several training camps in north Yemen, has also been accused of carrying out a string of bomb attacks in 1992 on Aden hotels used by foreigners.

Al Ahli Club continues to entertain after 50 years

By Angham Tamimi Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN — Celebrating the King's accession to throne and its own golden jubilee, Al Ahli Club presented a four-day performance in which 11 Circassian folk songs and dances were introduced last week at the Royal Cultural Centre. The real pleasure in watching Circassian folk performances lies in the magnificence of its symbolism. Pride and heroism countered by femininity and confidence are artistically expressed. Ever since its establishment in 1944, Al Ahli Club has been concerned with "nurturing the physical and mental abilities of its youth," Samer Belger, one of the three choreographers, told the Jordan Times. "In addition to its athletic teams, the club is also involved in social, cultural and artistic activities. Circassian folklore and heritage are represented in the folk group." The voluntary orientation of the troupe enabled it to attract those who believe in what they practise, which in turn heightens the excellence of their performance, said Mr. Belger. "Some of the youth need less than two or three months to be professionals." On a voluntary basis, the three choreographers in charge of training 85 participants, the designers of costume and set, the financial and administrative staff and the musicians collaborate to create polished performances, said Mr. Belger. "No one in particular is responsible for the group, rather all of us are in charge to make our folklore familiar all over the world." Located between the Black and Caspian seas, the Caucasus mountains, from where the Circassians migrated, has always been a sought-after region by Russia. A bitter 200 years of struggle over the land resulted in a mass expulsion of the Circassians in the early 19th century. Finding new homes in Turkey, Jordan, Syria and other countries, the Circassians became a part of the Arab community, but preserve their heritage and culture through their folklore traditions. On Sept. 6, the group will perform in the U.S., said Mr. Belger. "Through the audience we recognised that our folklore is appreciated by people who are familiar with our culture. They look amused, although they do not understand the songs' words," he added.

Jews celebrate old country

Israel and Morocco announced Thursday that they were to open liaison offices in Tel Aviv and Rabat, in a first step towards establishing full diplomatic relations. The 450,000 first and second generation Moroccan Jews who flooded into Israel in the 1950s have clung to their cultural identity. Families cook Moroccan style, celebrate family occasions in age-old tradition and dance to the music of Moroccan bands in the nightclubs of Tel Aviv and surrounding towns.

Regent calls for further study

(Continued from page 1) the ministry said. Advocates of the increased students' contribution rate say that the public should be encouraged to contribute to the educational system and not turn the country into a welfare state. But they agree that measures should be taken to raise the standard of living of those who fall within the lower income brackets before imposing additional mandatory payments on this sector. According to Mr. Rawabdeh, the government would study the concept of the students' contribution rate to seek a more equitable application of any proposed increase in the future.

Egyptian president urges

(Continued from page 1) innocuous topic but it scares ministers and prime ministers who know it could take off and cost them their jobs," said one Western diplomat based in the Indian subcontinent. Assad, Hrawi to meet (Continued from page 1) Lebanon expressed interest in a nine-month-old Israeli offer, whereby the Lebanese army would deploy along the southern border with Israel, disarm Iranian-backed guerrillas and guarantee the safety of Israeli-backed Lebanese militiamen.

Jordan Gulf Bank labour dispute ends Employees to earn additional JD 30 per month

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter AMMAN — A year-long labour dispute between the Jordan Gulf Bank management and the Union of Bank Workers ended with a settlement to increase the bank employees' salaries by 30 per month and grant them other fringe benefits beginning Oct. 1. A bank employee at the Jordan Gulf Bank head office in Amman told the Jordan Times that the workers had been seeking an increase through their union and the Ministry of Labour, both of which were involved in working out the settlement which was signed Thursday. "We have not received any annual increments for the past seven years and our other benefits were considered much lower than those of other bank workers in Jordan," said the employee who asked not to be identified. The Jordan Gulf Bank has 28 branches in Jordan, and one in Nablus in the occupied West Bank which opened in July, and the total number of employees now stands at 500, he said. According to the settlement, the basic salary of an employee with a Tawjhi certificate will be JD 100 with a JD 25 allowance, an employee with a diploma from a community college will receive JD 115 basic salary with a JD 32 allowance, and those with university degrees will receive basic salaries starting from JD 138 with a JD 40 allowance per month. The bank's management has also agreed to a pay 75 per cent, up from 50 per cent, of the total expenses for hospitalisation for natural child birth deliveries for employees' wives and to pay JD 30 for employees requiring prescription eyeglasses or lenses every two years, something which the workers had never enjoyed before, said the employee. A wife's allowance is to be raised to JD 20 from JD 15 and the workers will receive transportation allowances and will be able to get as much as JD 35,000 in loans to be repaid over 15 years at six per cent interest, according to the settlement agreement signed by the concerned parties and the Labour Ministry. According to the bank employee, the agreement would be reexamined after two years.

Irbid clans agree to settle blood feud in court

By Rana Hasselini Special to the Jordan Times IRBID — The family of an Irbid man who last week shot and killed his 23-year-old wife and severely injured her father urged the court to sentence him to the most severe punishment for the murder, family members said. In order to avert a blood feud between the Masa'deh clan of the husband, Mohammad, 37, and the Momani clan of the murdered wife, Mirvat, the Masa'deh agreed Thursday not to deal with the feud tribally but to have it settled in court. "We condemn what our family member has done, and we are urging that he receive the most severe punishment," Khaled Masa'deh, one of the tribe leaders told the Jordan Times Thursday. "We are going to comply with any request that our friendly neighbours, the Momani, ask, in order to settle the feud in a friendly way," he added, during an interview in his hometown of Zmal, 40 kilometres from the deceased town of Irbid. Zmal was cordoned off by police who checked the identities of all visitors to ensure that there were no incidents of revenge killing. Eyewitnesses to the murder told the Jordan Times that Mohammad fired four shots at his wife seconds after she arrived at the Sharia court in Irbid for a divorce proceeding. The husband, shot the remaining 10 bullets at his father-in-law, Jamal and his wife's brother Muhammad. The wife died immediately and her father, who received one bullet to the chin and several to his arms while trying to shield his daughter, was listed in fair condition. Muhammad, who sustained only minor injuries to the arms after he too attempted to block the bullets from his sister, was listed in good condition. A close relative of the deceased woman told the Jordan Times that the reason Mohammad shot his wife was because she failed in a community college exam two years ago. "Mohammad wanted her to pass the exam so she could work and help him support their family," the relative said. After she failed the test, said the relative, problems started between the couple, and Mirvat went back to her father's home in Irbid. "He (Mohammad) had started treating her in a cruel manner, and all of a sudden he became extremely religious and started acting strangely," the relative said. He claimed that in April, Mohammad had pointed a gun at Mirvat's uncle. Mohammad was arrested, but was released a few days later, said the relative.



WALKING TO HELP: Departing for Her Majesty Queen Noor Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Friday attends a charity walk, organised by Amman Chamber of Commerce to mark His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne. Taking part in the march, which started from the Orthodox Club in Abdoun and ended at the Marriott Hotel in Shmeisani, were 2,000 people, including Prince Firas Ben Ra'd, Ministry of Youth Secretary General Majed Qaisat, the president of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce and several handicapped children (Petra photo).

Surgeons acquire valuable information at gastrointestinal meeting — JSG chief

By Rima Corthawi Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN — The Medico-Surgical Gastrointestinal (GI) Conference Friday ended, but "the medical information acquired by both attendees and participants will remain to affect the process of modifying medical approach and techniques so that elevated standards can be ensured," said Hashem Abu Hassan, president of the Jordanian Society of Gastroenterologists (JSG). "This conference was excellent, in my opinion, as well as in that of many others in my field, I am sure. The papers presented a very valuable medical content, rich with useful information. The discussions conducted throughout the conference portrayed a high standard of medical background in all aspects of GI and surgery," said Dr. Abu Hassan, who was the co-chairman of the conference's executive organising committee. The discussions most worthy of mentioning included ones that revolved around peptic ulcer disease, "considering that 10% of any population suffers from symptoms of this disease at a certain stage of life. Also 2% of the people have active peptic ulcer. The problem here mainly lies in that, in addition to being a recurrent disease, the cause of it is not clearly defined although great amounts of theory are available," said Dr. Abu Hassan. However, recent discoveries on the subject have shown that a certain microorganism, given the name of helicobacter pylori, is responsible for both the ulcer and its recurrence, according to Dr. Abu Hassan. "Developing methods of treating such a microorganism, which has been tackled in discussions, will hopefully eradicate the common problem of peptic ulcer," he said. Important deliberations also centred around viral hepatitis B and C. "In our region, type B is widely spread with the carrier rate being around 10%. The virus leads to many future complications such as chronic hepatitis and liver cirrhosis. Unfortunately when hepatitis B virus attacks infants in their first year, there is a 90% chance of them becoming carriers. This percentage, however, decreases with age down to 5% in adults," Dr. Abu Hassan explained. Furthermore, the significance of the workshop conducted Thursday at Al Bashir Hospital by Rolin Hughes (a consultant in internal medicine and gastroenterology at the Mayo Clinic in the U.S.) should be acknowledged, according to Dr. Abu Hassan. "It handled endoscopic management of common bile duct stone. Two patients present at the hospital were successfully treated and it was a useful demonstration of modern techniques to all attendees from all sectors. Also a large polyp was removed from the stomach of a woman," said Dr. Abu Hassan. The panel discussion on upper GI bleeding secondary to oesophageal varices should also be noted, Dr. Abu Hassan maintained. "On top of being a real emergency, this case is extremely difficult to treat. Recent novel methods of treatment, such as endoscopic injection or ligation of the varices as well as medical therapy, must be exchanged," he said. As far as the benefits reaped in surgical work, "the surgeons present regarded the large number of papers presented by Jordanians during the conference as providing detailed and specialised information on surgical means," said Jamal Al Mas'ad, assistant professor of surgery at the University of Jordan Medical School. Surgical practices in Jordan have reached a remarkably high standard, according to Dr. Mas'ad. "Even European and American experts were very impressed with our advanced surgical facilities and expertise." "Thus this conference has been particularly important for accentuating the position of Jordan in surgery." "From an economic point of view, this will serve the purpose of encouraging patients from other countries to seek Jordanian surgical services." "We already help many fellow Arabs in the field of surgery, and we hope to be able to solve problems for larger numbers," said Dr. Mas'ad. Activities on Thursday and Friday involved 47 medical papers on peptic disorders of the upper GI tract, laparoscopic cholecystectomy, repair after mastectomy, colon and rectal cancer, viral hepatitis, complications of liver diseases, laparoscopic hernia repair and appendectomy and related laser applications.

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower prices in Jds per kg

Apple	650/400
Banana	450/350
Beans (Mukammal)	120/100
Cabbage	300/250
Carrot	200/150
Cauliflower	200/150
Cucumbers (large)	400/300
Cucumbers (small)	300/250
Eggplant	200/150
Garlic	900/500
Grapes	420/350
Guava	280/180
Lemon	280/180
Starfruit (large)	400/300
Starfruit (small)	250/180
Mint (dry)	250/180
Sweet Melon	240/180
Pepper (hot)	380/250
Pepper (sweet)	380/250
Peas	300/250
Peaches	900/600
Tomato	800/500
String beans	140/100
Watermelon	140/100

WHAT'S GOING ON

- ### GATHERING
- ★ Gathering with artist Jamal Badran at the Young Women's Christian Association at 6:00 p.m. (The gathering includes a slide show and a discussion).
- ### LECTURE
- ★ Lecture in Arabic entitled "Democracy — An Islamic Contemporary Vision" by Mr. Abu Bakr, leader of Islamic Da'wa Movement, at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, Jabal Amman at 6:30 p.m.
- ### EXHIBITIONS
- ★ Exhibition of household items at the Amman International Motor Exhibition, Airport Road (Tel 827408).
 - ★ Exhibition of paintings by selected Iraqi artists at Alia Art Gallery (Tel. 639303).
 - ★ Exhibition of Jordanian-made commodities at the International Exhibition Centre, University Road (Tel. 847113).
 - ★ "The Diness Exhibit" — beginnings of photography in Jerusalem and the Holy Land at the American Center exhibition hall, Abdoun.
 - ★ Exhibition of paintings entitled "Fantasia II" (depicting Islamic style) by Iraqi artist Widad Orfali at Orfali Art Gallery, Umm Uthaina (Tel. 826932).
 - ★ Exhibition of abstract art by Khalif Khalif and Nizar Younis at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art (Tel. 695291).
 - ★ Exhibition entitled "Time-2 Space 1" by Samia Zarou at Darat Al Funnun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweideh. Also showing "permanent" exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/2).

WANTED

A major commercial establishment dealing in cosmetics and perfumes Needs Saleswomen To work in the field of cosmetics and beauty care. Good looking and with a fair knowledge of English language. For interview call Tel. 824002, Amman

U.S., Cuba hold 'useful' talks, exodus continues

NEW YORK (R) — The United States and Cuba held their second day of talks Friday afternoon on the mass migration of thousands of Cuban exodus continues unabated.

The two sides came to the table with different agendas. Cuba is seeking to end the U.S. embargo which has crippled it economically, while the United States is trying to halt the uncontrolled flood of Cuban refugees, who for the past month have been fleeing north in flimsy rafts.

Ricardo Alarcon, Cuba's former foreign minister and U.N. ambassador, said: "We still have a long way to go before finding an agreement and a long way to go in order to really solve the problem."

He again insisted, in a Cable News Networks interview Thursday night, that the only real solution was for the United States and Cuba to end the hostility between them and for Washington to lift the economic embargo.

Asked if he brought up the embargo, Mr. Alarcon said: "Every time I speak about this issue I can assure you I always refer to the embargo." But he said he detected no change in the U.S. position.

U.S. spokesman David Johnson characterised Thursday's session at the United States U.N. mission "serious, professional and businesslike."

Mr. Johnson said the United States went into details

of how it believed the two sides could achieve "what we believe is a mutual objective — funneling the desire to emigrate into legal, safe, orderly, predictable and dependable process and stemming the uncontrolled outflow."

Washington is expected to increase its quota on legal immigration from Cuba, as well as, perhaps lift new sanctions on humanitarian goods and travel just imposed.

But it will also seek "the return of those Cuban excludables currently in United States jails" — a reference to those freed from prison in Cuba provided they joined the exodus. The same thing happened during a mass emigration of Cubans from the port of Mariel in 1980.

In the meantime, U.S. officials at Guantanamo naval base were reconsidering how they handle Cubans who approach the base on land after an incident in which three Cubans were injured by a mine blast.

On Wednesday, 23 Cubans made a disastrous attempt to reach the U.S. outpost from Cuban territory, apparently in an effort to join refugees held there since mid-August.

Following current U.S. policy, guards told the group to go back and one set off a land mine. One Cuban's eye was injured in the blast — he was sent to Miami for treatment — and two others were being treated at the base for leg injuries, said Lieutenant Pete Mitchell, spokesman for



Cuban former political prisoners sit in Havana's Vedado district on the second day of their hunger strike to protest the U.S. new policy not to grant

the base.

"In light of the incident, the policy of sending them back is under review," he said.

The base, for decades a sore point between Havana and Washington, now shelters more than 15,000 of the would-be Cuba migrants, shipped there by the U.S. Coast Guard since President

Bill Clinton announced Aug. 19 they would no longer be granted automatic asylum in the United States.

In Miami, a seven-member congressional delegation returned Thursday evening from a trip to the Cuban refugee camp.

Representative Robert Torricelli, a New Jersey Democrat, urged the Clinton

administration to maintain a hard line against Cuba's communist ruled government.

"The real answer to the refugee crisis is not an agreement with Castro. It's an end to the Castro government," he said.

Meanwhile the U.S. Coast Guard reported that it had picked up nearly 1,500 Cuban rafters from the Florida

Straits Thursday.

And Cuban migrants also continued to land in the nearby British colony of the Cayman Islands, with the arrival of 43 more rafters Thursday.

A total of 260 Cuban refugees are now being held in a detention camp on Grand Cayman, a tiny upscale island that is a major offshore financial centre.

Time for talks on Serbia sanctions — Romania

BUCHAREST (AFP) — The Romanian foreign minister has called for discussion to start on loosening the embargo against its neighbour Serbia.

The embargo has cost Romania several billion dollars in lost trade with the former Yugoslav republic.

Foreign Minister Teodor Melescanu said, calling for compensation to be paid to all Serbia's neighbours.

Serbia has proved its goodwill by breaking off political and economic relations with Bosnia's Serbs, he added.

"It is time to discuss loosening sanctions in line with the progress made in the peace progress," Mr. Melescanu said. He plans to bring up the matter when his French counterpart Alain Juppe visits Sept. 7 and 8.

He said the contact group on Bosnia, made up of Russia, the United States, France, Germany and Britain must "adopt their position to the developments, which are real, in Serbia."

Calling for international observers to be deployed on the border between Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina to monitor the embargo decreed by Belgrade against its fellow Serbs, might "create additional difficulties" for Serbia President Slobodan Milosevic, the minister said.

"For now, we must try to back authorities in Belgrade rather than to make more problems, since they have enough," he added.

The Romanian economy is strongly linked to that of Serbia. It estimates the embargo has cost it \$7 billion in lost income since beginning in June 1992.

Mr. Melescanu said U.N. troops could purchase their supplies in the countries neighbouring the former Yugoslavia in order to help these economies.

Bucharest also wants the international community to set up a system of direct compensation for countries affected by the embargo.

"Economic sanctions have become a very important instrument of politics. They even tend to replace military action. If one wants this instrument to function, there must be a system of compensations," the minister said.

But he said he opposed lifting arms embargo against the former Yugoslavia since this increased the risk of the war there escalating.

Western hostages plead for end to bombardment

PHNOM PENH (R) — Three Westerners held hostage by Khmer Rouge guerrillas have again pleaded for the Cambodian Army to stop shelling their jungle prison, saying there was little chance of their release if the bombardment continued.

Now into their sixth week as hostages, the three made their latest appeal in a 15-minute video recording made last Wednesday and obtained by Reuters on Friday.

Briton Mark Slater, Australian David Wilson and Frenchman Jean-Michel Braquet looked thin but otherwise well in the recording, which was made at Vine Mountain, a rebel stronghold 150 km south of Phnom Penh.

Mr. Slater, 28, from Northamptonshire, said army shelling of the area had prevented their release.

"We understood the deal was going down to pay the ransom on the 30th (August), but the bombing continued," he said. "If the bombing doesn't stop we'll never get out of here. It seems the bombing is directed at us," he added.

But the government, which denies shelling the camp but is trying to sever supply lines into Vine Mountain, was still optimistic on Friday of the hostages' release.

First Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh said in a statement that negotiations with the guerrillas were "nearly reaching a happy end."

Two artillery explosions could be clearly heard during the video recording.

"I plead with you to stop the bombing. (It is) day in, day out, very frightening for all of us, all the farmers and local people here. That's just the way it is," said Wilson, 29, from Melbourne.

"This person said please stop the bombings," said 27-year-old Braquet, gesturing to an off-camera guerrilla.

"For you to pay the ransom, it will be easy then."

The three Westerners showed the camera waist-deep trenches they used every day to shelter from the shelling. Mr. Braquet, from Rouen, wore a traditional Cambodian head scarf.

Army units have encircled the stronghold. The government says 10 guerrillas have defected and over 1,000 local villagers abandoned the area.

The Western hostages, in a letter accompanying the video and addressed to "our three governments," appealed for supplies of vitamin C, rice, dried beef, fish, and trousers for Mr. Slater and Mr. Wilson and haemorrhoid cream for Mr. Wilson.

Jiang Zemin praises better ties with Europe

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Chinese President Jiang Zemin arrived Friday for a four-day summit expected to strengthen ties with Russia.

"Together with Russian leaders we shall discuss the roots of future development of our good-neighbourly and friendly relations, taking into account that we are on the threshold of the 21st century," Mr. Jiang told reporters at Moscow's international airport.

During the summit, Mr. Jiang and Russian President Boris Yeltsin are expected to sign an agreement that neither country will target the other with its strategic nuclear missiles.

China and Russia are to sign a border accord that puts to rest most of the two countries' territorial disputes and they are to discuss ways to bolster ballooning bilateral trade.

"For China, Russia is the largest neighbouring country," Mr. Jiang said, in remarks reported by the Interfax news agency. "Between the people of the two countries, there is a traditional friendship, and, for China, the relations with the Russian Federation have always occupied a very important place in the country's foreign policy."

Mr. Jiang, on his first visit to Europe since becoming president, plans to travel to Ukraine and France after leaving Russia.

Relations between Moscow and Beijing have not always gone smoothly. An alliance based on their shared allegiance to communism broke down in the early 1960s and the two sides feuded until the late 1980s.

An official rapprochement was formally reached in 1989, and trade and other ties have expanded since the signing of a joint declaration in 1992.

China's communist leaders were dismayed by the collapse of the Soviet Communist empire, and they have rejected Russia's subsequent democratic reforms as unsuitable for their own developing nation.

Russian reformers issued a statement Friday calling on Mr. Yeltsin to press China for "an initiative on political amnesty in China (and) on ending the persecution of Chinese dissidents."

"We are deeply concerned that thousands of political prisoners are now being held in Chinese prisons," said the statement by the Democratic Russia Movement.

"We have not forgotten the tragic events that took place on Tiananmen Square in June 1989," the statement said.

Mr. Jiang's first stop is the first visit by a Chinese president since Mao Zedong was in Moscow in 1957. The tour will also be a chance for Mr. Jiang to assert himself as a world leader and successor to patriarch Deng Xiaoping.

Relations between China and Europe have seen important progress this year," Mr. Jiang told reporters before leaving. "The two sides understand that the development of relations is in their fundamental interests."

But he also emphasised the traditional warning of Chinese leaders that political differences are always likely.

"There is not, and there must not be, a single model for democracy in the world," he declared. "Some people think democracy does not exist when the Western model is not copied. This is not an objective point of view."

Mr. Jiang, who is also Communist Party secretary general and commander-in-chief of the military, is going to Europe for the first time since becoming head-of-state last year.

Accompanied by Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and head of the state plan commission Chen Jinhua, he will be in Russia till Sept. 6.

Relations with Russia have improved markedly since President Boris Yeltsin visited Beijing in 1992.

During Mr. Jiang's stay in Moscow, the two presidents are expected to sign an accord to stop pointing ballistic missiles at each other. They are also to deal with frontier disputes and sign trade accords.

Sales of Russian arms to China have flourished since a visit last year by Russian Defence Minister, General Pavel Grachev.

The Chinese president will spend two days in the Ukraine before an important final stage of the tour in France from Sept. 8 to 12.

His job there will be to set the seal on the rapprochement with France.

Lemonade gives Australia lemons bite

SYDNEY (R) — A new Australian lemonade about to be launched overseas has put the bite back into lemons. Two dogs lemonade is 4.2 per cent alcohol which is as strong as most Australian beers.

Pub owner Duncan McGillivray of Adelaide said two dogs, served with ice and a slice of lemon, is a good alternative to light beer and helps the gap between beer and wines and spirits as well as the drinker gap. "It's a lovely drink for a nice sunny day, really refreshing," Mr. McGillivray told Reuters on Friday.

"It tastes a bit like bitter lemon but with more bite and with a definite adult flavour," Mr. McGillivray said he came up with the idea of brewing lemons after a neighbour complained that half of the lemons in his orchard went to waste as they were either too big or too small for the market. "For about three months I messed around with lemons, skins and all, and finally came up with the right flavour," he said. "Everyone from 18 years old to 80 seems to like it."

London zoo to return hairy rhinoceros

JAKARTA (AFP) — London Zoo will return several pairs of rare Sumatran Rhinoceros to Indonesia after efforts to breed them in Britain failed, a senior wildlife official said here Wednesday.

Sujadi Hartono, Indonesian director-general for forest exploitation and nature conservation, said they will be returned during the 1995-96 fiscal year beginning in April next year. He told Antara news agency that the small, hairy two-horned Sumatran rhinos, will be returned to their natural habitat in the south Sumatran province of Lampung. The rhinos were sent to London several years ago but all breeding attempts failed. Hartono did not say where the rhinos originally came from, but a joint British-Indonesian project in 1985 sought to catch four pairs from jungles in southern Sumatra in a bid to ensure the survival of the endangered species. The Sumatran rhino, or Dicerorhinus sumatrensis, is Asia's smallest rhinoceros. It lives in the jungles of Sumatra. Two other types of the same species can also be found in small pockets or jungles in Burma, Assam, Malaysia and Kalimantan. Officials estimate that there are about 400 Sumatran rhinos left, but sightings of the nocturnal animal have been rare in the past few years.

Australian police announce record heroin haul

SYDNEY (AFP) — Australian police announced Wednesday they had seized a record 123 kilograms of heroin with an estimated street value of around \$190 million in the northern city of Darwin. A combined drug enforcement unit first seized 58 blocks of heroin weighing 40.7 kilograms and arrested eight people from a Thai fishing vessel on July 13, a police statement said.

"Shortly after that, a further 113 blocks of heroin, weighing 82.7 kilograms, was located by police divers and forms a part of the same consignment," it added.

"The total weight of 123 kilograms is Australia's largest bulk seizure of heroin with a wholesale price of about 120 million Australian dollars (\$89 million) and a street value of about \$240 million," said the statement.

A police spokesman in Darwin, capital of the Northern Territory, said the second haul of heroin was found at the bottom of the harbour. The statement by the combined drug enforcement unit — comprising Northern Territory police, federal police and customs officers — said the second haul could not be publicised earlier because of operational reasons. The eight people arrested on the fishing vessel had been charged with importing the original 58 blocks of heroin and would also be charged with the additional seizure, the statement said. "The investigation continues with assistance to the combined drug enforcement unit from the narcotics suppression bureau of the Royal Thai Police and liaison officers from the Australian Federal Police stationed throughout Southeast Asia," it added.

Pope's planned visit to Sarajevo is morale boost, security nightmare

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Pope John Paul II's planned visit to Sarajevo is being hailed as the biggest spiritual and morale boost to the besieged population since the start of the war.

But for security officials, it is set to be a nightmare. The airport area is frequently raked by gunfire and often closed by mortar attacks. The speed-skating stadium, where the 74-year-old Pontiff wants to hold mass for 25,000 people is only a few hundred yards from Serb guns on the front line. And the risk of sniper fire on most parts of the planned papal route is omnipresent.

"All U.N. troops will be on full alert. There will be maximum security," said Col. Bertrand Labarsouque, the U.N. military spokesman for Sarajevo. "But nobody can guarantee 100 per cent security in Sarajevo."

U.N. officials privately refer to the planned Sept. 8 visit as a "Nightmare."

The Vatican said Thursday that the Pope remained intent on his trip.

However, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic has warned the Pope against the visit, citing security risks. He maintains that the Serbs fear they will automatically be blamed if something does happen to the Pontiff.

The same kind of threat recently prevented U.S. Defence Secretary William Perry from landing at Sarajevo airport.



Pope John Paul II

In addition to the U.N. protection, Bosnian officials say they are leaving nothing to chance.

"This is the visit of the highest official to Bosnia-Herzegovina. It's because of that we are putting so much importance into it," said Zeljko Varunec, head of security for the papal visit within the Bosnian Interior Ministry.

"The best men we have in the republic are in this team," he said. "And they are working around the clock."

As soon as plans for the visit were announced, Bosnian police started to cooperate with foreign security services, including Interpol.

Mr. Varunec says lists of international terrorists are being checked, and any radical Muslim units in the Bosnian army are being brought

under control. Since the Serbs were forced to pull back heavy weapons from around Sarajevo in March, a shaky calm has descended on the beleaguered city.

But flights into Sarajevo are vulnerable to ground attacks. The U.N. airlift has been suspended several times in the past month because of mortar and sniper fire.

Bosnian Serbs have warned that all aircraft that miss their allocated landing slot may be fired on. A helicopter was hit by five rounds of small arms fire Thursday as it tried to land near U.N. headquarters.

Situated on the front line, the airport is surrounded by minefields and weapons of both warring sides.

From the airport, the Pope has to travel the city's most dangerous stretch of road — the infamous sniper alley — to arrive at the presidency building to meet top government officials.

After that, the security headaches are set to worsen with Mass at the open-air speed-skating ring at Zetra.

This is deemed the safest area in the massive Sports Complex which was built for the Sarajevo winter Olympic Games in 1984 and which — like so many city landmarks — has been reduced to a scarred eyesore.

Security officials say they are preparing shelters for the crowds of worshippers in the event of an attack from Serb artillery on nearby hills.

ambitious programme to develop nuclear weapons.

The United States and North Korea held their last round of talks in August in Geneva. It was disclosed subsequently that the reactor at the Yongbyon complex might be restarted if a deal was not struck for two western-style replacements.

State Department officials said Asian and European governments would be asked to share the estimated \$4 billion cost of two replacement light-water reactors.

The agreement in Geneva maintained the freeze pledged by North Korea in July and monitored by International Atomic Energy Agency inspectors. It did not resolve the disposition of 8,000 nuclear fuel rods, nor provide access to two suspect waste sites.

However, North Korea said it would maintain its commitment to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, which is designed to restrict the spread of nuclear weapons technology and provides for international inspection of suspect programmes. It also pledged to work to denuclearise the Korean Peninsula.

But the government, which denies shelling the camp but is trying to sever supply lines into Vine Mountain, was still optimistic on Friday of the hostages' release.

First Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh said in a statement that negotiations with the guerrillas were "nearly reaching a happy end."

U.S., North Korea to talk about opening diplomatic offices

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has agreed to talk North Korea next week about establishing diplomatic offices in the two capitals. It is a major step towards formal relations with the hardline Communist government.

That would depend, however, on reaching an overall agreement on North Korea's suspect nuclear programme, which, after more than a year of quarrelling, the Pyongyang government pledged in July to freeze and partially open to international inspectors.

Administration officials said Thursday the talks beginning on Sept. 10, apparently the first ever in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang, would concern arrangements for setting up liaison offices there and in Washington. Establishing mail service, renting office space and real estate laws will be on the agenda.

Technical experts from the two sides will meet the same day in Berlin on replacing a five-megawatt experimental reactor that is part of North Korea's nuclear programme with new technology that is considered less dangerous.

The Berlin meeting also will deal with ways to safely store spent fuel from the North Korean reactor and to temporarily provide North Korea with energy during a period of conversion to light-water reactors. Berlin was chosen because of Germany's expertise in technology, officials said.

On Sept. 23, senior negotiators will reconvene in Geneva to pursue North Korea's quest for recognition and economic ties with the West and the U.S. drive to halt a programme considered a potential danger to South Korea, Japan and other Asian countries.

Liaison offices provide for diplomatic contact. The Nixon administration, for instance, established liaison offices to end decades of icy distance from China. Subsequently, the Carter administration established full ties with Beijing.

"We don't attach symbolic significance" to the Pyongyang meeting, U.S. State Department spokesman Michael McCurry said. But he said he would acknowledge that North Korea might view the meeting in that light.

Also, Mr. McCurry said

opening liaison offices was "conditional on an overall agreement" on North Korea's nuclear programme.

In Edgartown, Mass., where President Clinton is on vacation, White House Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers said, "These are simply technical talks that would allow us to be prepared in case that somewhere down the line a decision is made to move forward in establishing a liaison office or something else. 'Should the decision be made, this is... a step to make sure that we're ready... This is not any kind of a diplomatic conversation. It's technical discussions," she said.

Although North Korea has promised to freeze its nuclear programme, it has not agreed to permit international inspection of two suspect waste sites that could provide valuable clues to what the North Koreans have been doing with spent fuel. U.S. intelligence experts are convinced one or two nuclear weapons were produced.

The North Koreans have insisted they need their experimental reactor for energy purposes. But the United States and some Asian nations suspect it is part of an

news invitation to Clinton to visit

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Clinton holds telephone talks with Asia

Lemonade gives Australia
lemons bite

SYDNEY (R) — A new Australian lemonade about to be launched overseas has put a bite back into lemons. The alcohol which is as strong as most Australian beers, the owner Duncan McGilivray of Adelaide said two lemons served with ice and a shot of lemon, is a good alternative to light beer and bridges the gap between beer and wine and spirits as well as a drink for a nice sunny day. McGilivray told Reuters on Friday. "It tastes a bit like bitter lemon but with more flavour," Mr. McGilivray said he came up with the idea of brewing lemons after a neighbour complained that half of the lemons in his orchard went to waste as they were either too big or too small for the market. "For about three months I messed around with lemons, skins and all, and finally came up with the right flavour," he said. "Everyone from 18 years old to 80 seems to like it."

London zoo to
return hairy
rhinoceros

JAKARTA (AFP) — London Zoo will return several pairs of rare Sumatran Rhinoceros to Indonesia after efforts to breed them in Britain failed, a senior wildlife official said here Wednesday. Sajadi Hartono, Indonesian director-general for forest exploitation and nature conservation, said they will be returned during the 1995-96 fiscal year beginning in April next year. He told Antara news agency that the small, hairy two-horned Sumatran rhinos, will be returned to their natural habitat in the south Sumatran province of Lampung. The rhinos were sent to London several years ago but all breeding attempts failed. Hartono did not say where the rhinos originally came from, but a joint British-Indonesian project in 1985 sought to catch four pairs from jungles in southern Sumatra in a bid to ensure the survival of the endangered species. The Sumatran rhino, or Dicerorhinus Sumatrensis, is Asia's smallest rhinoceros. It lives in the jungles of Sumatra. Two other types of the same species can also be found in small pockets of jungles in Burma, Assam, Malaysia and Kalimantan. Officials estimate that there are about 400 Sumatran rhinos left, but sightings of the nocturnal animal have been rare in the past few years.

Australian police
announce record
heroin haul

SYDNEY (AFP) — Australian police announced Wednesday they had seized a record 123 kilograms of heroin with an estimated street value of around \$190 million in the northern city of Darwin. A combined drug enforcement unit first seized 58 blocks of heroin weighing 40.7 kilograms from an arrested eight people on July 13. That finding was followed by a police statement said, "Shortly after that, a further 113 blocks of heroin, weighing 82.7 kilograms, was located by police divers as forms a part of the same consignment," it added. "The total weight of 123 kilograms is Australia's largest bulk seizure of heroin with a wholesale price of about \$200 million and a street value of about \$240 million," said the statement. A police spokesman in Darwin, capital of the Northern Territory, said the second haul of heroin was found at the bottom of the harbour. The statement by the combined drug enforcement unit — comprising Northern Territory police, federal police and customs officers — said the second haul could not be publicised earlier because of operational reasons. The eight people arrested on the fishing vessel had been charged with importing the original 58 blocks of heroin and would also be charged with the additional seizure, the statement said. "The investigation continues with assistance to the combined drug enforcement unit from the narcotics suppression bureau of the Royal Thai Police and liaison officers from the Australian Federal Police stationed throughout Southeast Asia," it added.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Jiang renews invitation to Clinton to visit China

BEIJING (AFP) — Chinese President Jiang Zemin renewed Friday an invitation to U.S. President Bill Clinton to visit China. "We have already invited President Clinton to visit China, so if he decides to come we will accord him a warm reception," Mr. Jiang told reporters before leaving China for a 10-day European tour. Mr. Clinton's first official visit to China could take place towards the end of the year, according to diplomatic circles, with Foreign Minister Qian Qichen laying the groundwork for the visit when he goes to Washington at the end of September. The two leaders are expected to meet in Jakarta in November at a summit of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum. Sino-American relations entered a "new era," according to both sides, after Mr. Clinton in May renewed China's most favoured nation trading status unconditionally, de-linking trade from China's human rights record. The new policy of commercial engagement began this week with the visit to China of Commerce Secretary Ron Brown during which U.S. firms signed contracts worth around \$7 billion. Mr. Jiang left Beijing Friday for Russia, the first leg of a tour which will also take him to Ukraine and France.

Murayama holds telephone talks with Asian leaders

TOKYO (AFP) — The leaders of Japan, the Philippines, Singapore and Vietnam on Friday agreed by telephone to maintain close ties to ensure peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, officials said here. Prime Minister Tomichi Murayama thanked Philippine President Fidel Ramos, Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong for their warm welcome during his recent visit to their countries, the officials said. The Japanese premier returned home Tuesday from an eight-day Southeast Asian tour to the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Singapore. Mr. Murayama is also due to talk Malaysian Prime Minister Mahatir Mohammad by telephone later in the day, the officials added.

U.S. to list 9 nations as unsafe for air travel

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. air safety officials announced later Friday that airlines from nine nations have been barred from serving the United States because of inadequate safety oversight. NBC News and the Washington Post reported. They said the countries which did not meet international standards were Belize, the Dominican Republic, Gambia, Ghana, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Uruguay and Zaire. The countries have been told by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) that their aircraft cannot fly to the United States unless the safety deficiencies are corrected, the Washington Post said. Four countries have been put on a conditional list to enable their planes to serve the United States under heightened FAA scrutiny: Bolivia, El Salvador, Guatemala and the Netherlands Antilles, the Post said. NBC News said the safety assessments were based on such factors as airport safety, air traffic control and government aviation regulations.

Khmer Rouge says royalists have no power

BANGKOK (AFP) — Cambodia's Khmer Rouge guerrillas claimed Friday that the royalists faction has lost the struggle for power in Phnom Penh to the rival faction backed by Vietnam. In a broadcast monitored in Bangkok, Khmer Rouge radio said that Hun Sen and his Cambodian People's Party (CPP) "has complete control" over Prince Norodom Ranariddh and his supporters. Prince Ranariddh and Hun Sen are co-prime ministers in a coalition government formed in 1993 after United Nations-sponsored general elections. The CPP held office in Phnom Penh after Vietnam invaded Cambodia and ousted the Khmer Rouge from power in 1979. The royalists and the Khmer Rouge waged a guerrilla war until the Paris peace accords of 1991. "The puppet Hun Sen leads Prince Ranariddh around by the nose... the puppet Chea Sim has sole control over parliament, the puppet Harheng has taken full control of the police and the puppet Tea Banh, Pol Saroeum and Ke Kimyan have control over all armed forces," the radio said. It held that power in the provinces and down to the village level was in the hands of the pro-Vietnamese, "and thus no one can chase the Vietnamese out of Cambodia." A controversial immigration law adopted recently in Phnom Penh was a ploy by the pro-Vietnamese CPP and had triggered "crocodile tears" over the law's supposed threat to Vietnamese settlers in Cambodia, the radio said.

Cost of Haiti military invasion put at \$427m

NEW YORK (AFP) — A U.S.-led military invasion of Haiti would cost around \$427 million, the Pentagon has estimated, the New York Times reported Friday. The Times quoted one Defence Department official as saying that the first three weeks of an invasion would cost \$55 million to cover transportation, food and water, logistics and combat pay for an initial force of 12,000 soldiers. The goal would be to restore to power in 10 days Jean-Bertrand Aristide who was ousted from power by the Haitian military in a bloody Sept. 30, 1991, coup and who now lives in exile in Washington. Pentagon cost experts then say that it would take an extra \$372 million over the next seven months with 2,500 to 3,000 U.S. troops remaining at the end of that period. Once order had been restored, a U.N.-led force of 6,000 troops would replace the initial invasion force, the Times quoted Pentagon sources as saying. U.S. administration officials have so far been reluctant to put a price on an invasion of Haiti although they have left no doubt that it will go ahead if the Haitian military refuses to step down. Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott said Thursday that U.S. troops would be sent to Haiti even if the transition is peaceful to form a large part of an international force protecting Mr. Aristide and the restored government. Pentagon officials said a total of \$200 million had already been spent by the United States in rescuing the thousands of Haitians who have taken to small boats in a bid to flee to the United States and then building holding camps for them.

Constitutional convention reconvenes in Rangoon

BANGKOK (AFP) — Some 700 delegates turned out Friday as a Constitutional Convention in Rangoon resumed work on hammering out a new charter for Burma. The convention, which had been in recess the last five months, is working to produce a new constitution for Burma that will restore democracy to the impoverished Southeast Asian nation but maintain a leading role in government for the military. Roughly one-third of the delegates were hand-picked by the ruling junta and are committed to supporting a continued leadership role for the military. Another third are members of the opposition political parties, including the main National League for Democracy (NLD), while the rest represent various segments of Burmese society ranging from ethnic minorities to labour unions. Critics charge that all of the delegates are attending the convention on the sufferance of the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), as the junta is formally called, and that even its supposed opponents have offered only tepid criticism of the high-orchestrated convention sessions. The proposed charter would make Burma a republic with seven regions and seven states of equal status, under an executive presidency. But one section already agreed on would keep popular dissident Aung San Suu Kyi from becoming Burma's leader because she has lived abroad during the last 20 years and is married to a foreigner, British academic Michael Aris. Aung San Suu Kyi began her sixth year of house arrest in Rangoon in July. The convention first convened in January 1993. There is no deadline for it to complete its work.

Protestant militants
not observing truce

BELFAST (AFP) — Protestant militants on Friday claimed the first murder since the IRA ceasefire while unionist fears that London cut a secret deal to obtain the truce were heightened when four republican prisoners were moved from Britain to Northern Ireland.

Gerry Adams, president of the Sinn Féin political wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), meanwhile demanded the withdrawal of British troops and police from Catholic areas of the province.

Mr. Adams said: "Crown forces, including the RUC (Royal Ulster Constabulary) are not acceptable in nationalist areas." However, loyalist paramilitaries made it clear they were not going to observe a truce in the immediate future.

Protestant loyalist Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF) told local radio stations that they had killed "republican militant" John O'Hanlon less than a day after the ceasefire took effect and just after news leaked that four republican prisoners had been transferred from Britain to Northern Ireland.

Police said the victim, in his early 20s and the father of one, was working with a colleague on a car at around 11:00 p.m. (2200 GMT) Thursday when two gunmen appeared through a hedge and fired five shots.

Britain fears that the loyalists, who want to stay British,

could conclude the transfer is part of a deal made with the IRA, and could feel excluded from the peace process. Such transfers have been a key demand of the banned IRA.

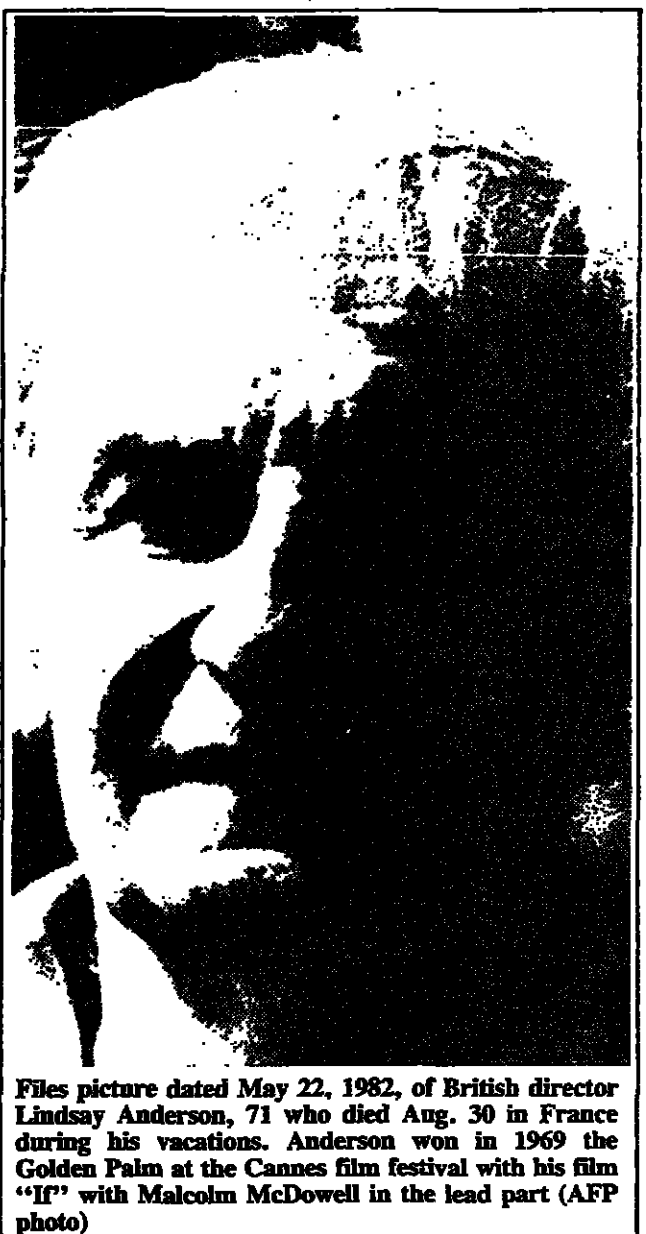
However, Reverend Roy Magee, known to have had contacts in the past with the Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF) and the Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF) — the Protestant community's two main paramilitary factions — said they were studying "very, very seriously" the IRA ceasefire statement but were unlikely to give their response until next week.

"They are going to examine this declaration and they might need some assistance to find out what it really means and if a package was offered (by the British government) in exchange for a ceasefire," Mr. Magee said.

"If they are satisfied there is no threat to Northern Ireland's position within the U.K., I would be hopeful they would respond positively," he added.

He was referring to reports that the British government might consider changing the 1920 Government of Ireland Act which asserts sovereignty over the province making this conditional on the wish of its citizens. This change would be bitterly contested by Unionists and right-wing Conservative politicians.

In return Ireland would agree to hold a referendum on renouncing its territorial claim to Northern Ireland.



Files picture dated May 22, 1982, of British director Lindsay Anderson, 71 who died Aug. 30 in France during his vacations. Anderson won in 1969 the Golden Palm at the Cannes film festival with his film "If" with Malcolm McDowell in the lead part (AFP photo)

Mitterrand urged 'understanding'
of youthful rightist allegiance

PARIS (AFP) — French President Francois Mitterrand has uncovered sensitive areas of his right-wing past in a book published this week that gives extensive details of his career with the collaborationist Vichy regime during World War II.

In "Une Jeunesse Française" (A Frenchman's Youth) penned by journalists Pierre Pean, Mitterrand asks for understanding for past mistakes, explaining that as a young man he was marked by his provincial upbringing and by the prevailing attitudes of the time.

"In troubled times, it is difficult to make choices, especially when you are young," he told Pean. "It's unfair to judge men on errors which can be explained by the atmosphere of the period."

The book traces Mr. Mitterrand's prewar links and sympathies with the French nationalist right, but notes that the future president never joined the pro-fascist Cagoule (Hood) organisation or the extreme nationalist Action Française.

Illustrated by a previously unpublished photograph of Mr. Mitterrand with Vichy leader Philippe Petain, taken in October 1942, the book spans the period from 1934 to 1947, ranging from Mr. Mitterrand's arrival in Paris as a young Catholic to his appointment as the youngest

Bloodstain on IRA truce
fuels backlash fear

Two bullet holes in the windscreen of Catholic John McNab's car, is the scene of the first sectarian killing since the IRA announcement of ceasefire after twenty

five years of troubles in Northern Ireland. The incident happened in the Catholic area of Antrim, North Belfast (AFP photo)

BELFAST (R) — Northern Ireland's new dreams of peace were jolted by the stark reality of sectarian hatred on Friday after gunmen killed a Catholic to try to provoke the IRA into breaking its historic ceasefire.

Police said the Thursday night killing bore all the hallmarks of an attack by the shadowy Protestant killer gangs which fear that peace on the Irish Republican Army's terms would threaten the province's British status.

The first bloodstain on the ceasefire coincided with a furious row over the transfer to the province from Britain of an IRA activist who was jailed for plotting to blow up Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and other members of the British cabinet in a spectacular bombing a decade ago.

The Belfast killing realised the worst fears of church leaders and politicians who believe Protestant extremists will kill Catholics at random to goad the IRA into retaliation, shattering the Republicans' public commitment to peace.

Protestant extremists have hinted at vengeance and warned of civil war over the IRA's decision to halt its 25-year armed struggle against British rule in Northern Ireland to seek progress in the political arena alone.

Britain has insisted that its transfer of IRA prisoners to the province was not a reward for the guerrilla truce. But "unionists" bitterly opposed to the IRA's goal of a united Ireland still suspect it is the first sign of "appeasement".

Derek Lewis, the British prison chief who approved Thursday's transfer of the four IRA inmates, tried to calm the row on Friday, saying the move was months in the making and was not "politically motivated".

But this was unlikely to stanch the suspicions of a secret "sell-out" of the province's Protestant majority community that lay behind Thursday night's bloodshed.

The first sectarian killing since the ceasefire took effect on Wednesday happened in a

mixed Catholic-Protestant neighbourhood of Belfast.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility. But the outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters admitted early on Friday they were behind a second attack overnight on a Catholic taxi driver, who escaped injury in the shooting.

Alban Maginnis, a local councillor for the moderate Nationalist Social Democratic and Labour Party, said the fatal shooting of the 22-year-old Catholic was deliberately designed to provoke the IRA into breaking its ceasefire.

"It is all very characteristic of previous loyalist attacks in that area," he said.

The killing, the row over the prisoner transfer and British doubts about whether the IRA move amounted to the permanent ceasefire it needs before opening a full dialogue with the IRA's political wing all combined to dampen the initial euphoria.

A former conservative minister badly injured in the 1984 IRA bombing of a party conference in the resort town

of Brighton condemned the decision to move the IRA prisoners closer to their families in Northern Ireland.

"The timing of this move makes it look like an early reward for the IRA or an act of crass political incompetence," said former Conservative Party politician Sir Norman Tebbit.

His anger was echoed by William Trimble of the province's biggest "Unionist" Party.

"How can we persuade anybody that they are not being sold out, when we have the sort of crass decision which was taken yesterday by an utter idiot who doesn't seem to understand the political sensitivity that he's dealing with," he said in a radio interview.

One of the transferred prisoners, Patrick Magee, is serving a life term for the Brighton bombing which killed five people and injured 30. A second man, Gerard McDonnell, was sentenced to life on charges of helping Magee plan his bombing spree in British resorts.

British convict transfer sparks row over IRA truce

LONDON (R) — The transfer to a Northern Ireland jail of IRA prisoners, including one who tried to kill Margaret Thatcher and her cabinet, sparked charges on Friday that Britain had struck a secret deal to win a truce with the IRA.

Protestant unionists also said extremists may have been so angered by Thursday's move that they retaliated by shooting dead a Catholic man in Belfast in the first sectarian killing since the Irish Republican Army declared a ceasefire.

But prison chief Derek Lewis, target of Prime Minister John Major's fury over the closeness of the transfer's timing, refused to resign and insisted the moves were

not politically motivated.

The man convicted of trying to kill Mrs. Thatcher, Mr. Major's predecessor as premier, and three inmates were transferred from the British mainland on Thursday, the day the IRA began a truce in its 25-year guerrilla campaign against Britain.

"What a time to reward terror," trumpeted the headline in The Daily Mail.

The transfers inflamed tension in Belfast, where hundreds of people gathered in the Protestant Shankill road on Thursday night to accuse the government of a sell-out.

Protestant politician William Ross said the transfer could have been partly to blame for the death of a Catholic man, shot dead by

in trying to kill Mrs. Thatcher at the Conservative Party conference in 1984.

Derek Lewis, director general of the prison service, said the transfers, for a period of six months, were part of a programme drawn up in June.

Ministers approved the programme but were not consulted on the timing of the transfers, he told BBC Radio.

"These transfers had been announced beforehand. They were in no way politically motivated," Mr. Lewis said.

He said he had no plans to resign over the affair, but added: "To the extent that these developments have caused problems, I very much regret that."

Georgians, Abkhazians agree efforts on refugees

GENEVA (R) — Georgia and leaders from rebel Abkhazia agreed on Friday to make "best efforts" to complete preparations for the return of Georgian refugees who fled the rebel region in fighting last year.

The Abkhazians, who are seeking a form of independence from the ex-Soviet Transcaucasian republic, also agreed to attend a session of a quadripartite commission on the refugee issue to be held in the Russian city of Sochi on Sept. 6.

The agreement was formalised in a statement signed by the two sides after three days of talks in Geneva, one of several centres where negotiations aimed at bringing peace in the region are held under United Nations mediation.

the quadripartite commission in Sochi last month.

The commission includes Georgia, the Abkhazians, Russia and representatives of the U.N.'s UNHCR refugee agency which is planning and will supervise the return.

A small U.N. observer mission was reinforced in June by a 2,500-strong Russian peacekeeping force authorised by the world body who have been deployed along the Inguri River, which forms the Abkhaz border with the rest of Georgia.

Despite Friday's limited agreement, Mr. Brunner said accord on an overall political settlement still appeared a long way off. "The positions of the two sides are rather far apart," the Swiss diplomat

declared.

Mutual suspicions and passions roused by the bitter fighting in 1992 and 1993 — in which thousands of people were killed and both sides accused each other of atrocities and cultural genocide — made a settlement difficult, he added.

"But a return of refugees and effective peacekeeping will make a good contribution to achieving a political agreement," Mr. Brunner said.

The two sides are due to return to Geneva in the second week on October to continue talks on the future relationship between Abkhazia and the rest of Georgia. U.N. officials say total independence for Abkhazia is excluded.

Major quake hits off northern California coast

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — A major earthquake struck off the Northern California coast Thursday, shaking up residents from central California to southern Oregon, but there were no immediate reports of injuries or damage.

An earthquake measuring 6.9 on the Richter scale hit in the Pacific Ocean 145 km west of Eureka, on the northern California coast, said Frank Baldwin, a spokesman for the national earthquake information centre in Golden, Colorado.

The quake off Eureka, a fishing and lumber town 400 kms north of San Francisco, was felt at 8:16 a.m. PDT (11:16 a.m. EDT), but followed by many smaller after-

shocks. Seismologists said because the quake was centred in the ocean its damage effect was dampened.

The area closest to the quake, Humboldt County in northern California, was hit by a major earthquake in 1992 which damaged 300 homes, injured 95 people and caused more than \$50 million of damage.

But residents of Petrolia, a small coastal town badly damaged in the 1992 quake, said Thursday's quake was nothing like the earlier shaker.

"It was like a slow rolling... It wasn't violent or

anything," said Petrolia Postmaster Jackie Roscoe.

The old Petrolia post office was destroyed in the 1992 quake and Mr. Roscoe has been operating the town's mail facility out of a temporary trailer arrangement ever since.

Alarmed residents of Sacramento and Palo Alto called into a San Francisco radio station to say they had felt a strong rolling motion lasting some 30 seconds.

While there was no immediate reports of damage, the California Office of Emergency Services said it was sending experts to Humboldt County just in case.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

مجلس التحرير: 667171/6, 670141-4

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephone: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 696183

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Hope for Ireland too

THE DECLARATION last week of a "complete cessation" of violence in Northern Ireland by the outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA) may have taken some countries and parties by surprise, but the ceasefire fits quite well with the spirit of the new international era. The historic unilateral end of hostilities by the IRA comes on the heels of similar moves by other "liberation" movements across the world, notably in the Middle East, Latin America and Africa, where the military option was superseded by political processes aiming to resolve the conflicts in question.

It is true that every such positive development was met with opposition from splinter and extremist groups, which promised to fight on. No wonder then that loyalist paramilitary groups in Northern Ireland were swift in rejecting the offer of peace by the IRA and promised to continue their military struggle.

The combined Loyalist Military Command — the umbrella group, which includes the outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters and the Ulster Volunteer Force, is obviously not comfortable with the positive development as it might prefer the worn-out methods of the past to frustrate the political ends of the IRA. The killing of a North-Irish Catholic man Thursday in the wake of the IRA announcement of a ceasefire came as further evidence that opposition to the peace process in Northern Ireland is not about to lay down its arms, something which resembles the fate of the peace process in this region of the world and elsewhere, where extremist forces appear to have vested interests in the perpetuation of the armed struggle.

The 25-year-old armed conflict in Northern Ireland has claimed the lives of no less than 3,000 people and left some 36,000 injured or maimed. Being in essence a sectarian strife, the violence was particularly bloody and vicious. The futility of this religious and political war waged by both sides of the fence was bound to end at the appropriate international and regional time. The international climate became favourable to the termination of hostilities when the new international order consolidated its grip on international and regional theatres. Last December's Anglo-Irish declaration, which offered the IRA's political wing, Sinn Féin, a place in the peace process, provided also the setting within which the IRA found room for manoeuvring without losing face.

We in the Middle East cannot but take comfort from the fact that the steps towards peace in the Middle East are being emulated elsewhere in the world. We certainly hope that it is time for the Irish and other strife-ridden people around the world to play their own peace.

PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour expressed the view that the coming U.N. population conference in Cairo is pointless now that the Vatican as well as the leadership of the Islamic World have condemned it and called for its boycott. Perhaps Egypt's insistence on hosting the conference is aimed at proving that the country enjoys security, but this is bound to backfire because the extremists would see in the Christian-Islamic refusal of such a conference an opportunity to escalate their opposition to it by every possible means, said Taber Al Adwan. The organisers are working against the will of the religious leaders whose words are well heeded by the common people who are not likely to support the conference's resolutions or recommendations. The writer said, one has to admit that the Third World, including the Arab and Islamic countries, continue to face hunger and other economic ills due to the large size of their population. Not only thousands die because of starvation in these countries but also their nations are bound to lose independence the moment they seek Western help, he added. The writer said that there must be other means for tackling the population explosion problem that would be acceptable to religion and the cultural traditions and conforming to morals and ethics.

BASSAM EMOUSH, a columnist in Al Ra'i, supported calls made by political parties and the needy people for the Ministry of Education to increase contributions to their schools, said the writer, who is also a member of Parliament. The country is facing economic difficulties, the income of the poor families is barely sufficient for subsistence and the cost of living is so high in Jordan that what was known to be the middle class has disappeared, said the writer.

Jordanian Perspective

By Dr. Musa Keilani

Linking up with expatriates

AMID INTENSIVE moves in the country to create an environment more conducive for foreign investment, one of the main factors that should not be overlooked is the role of expatriates.

In the mid-1980s, His Majesty King Hussein himself took the lead in emphasising the role of the expatriates in this effort and launched a process that was designed to bring about stronger links between the Kingdom and its sons living abroad. After an initial round of excitement, the initiative lagged behind, particularly in the aftermath of the economic problems that confronted Jordan in the late 80s.

Indeed, those moves, launched by King Hussein and closely followed up by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and senior officials went a long way in encouraging many expatriates to adopt a new look towards their homeland. For many, it might only have meant planning a visit to Jordan from whatever corner of the globe they were in but it was a strong start.

Officials initially worked to encourage this emerging relationship between the Kingdom and Jordanian expatriates. Eventually, however, these efforts came to a halt.

It was also clear that expatriates cannot be expected to invest in their home country for the sake of investment. There has always been definitely an interest and this sentiment had to be exploited.

Today, in the wake of the dramatic breakthroughs in Jordan's quest for a negotiated settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict, prospects are excellent for relaunching the effort to attract Jordanian expatriate investments along the same lines that are applicable to foreign investments.

In addition, we could offer a series of added incentives to our expatriates to invest in their homeland. It is very much within reasonable hope that we would be successful if we put in the right effort in the right direction.

Granted, a large number of expatriates has returned home in the wake of the Gulf crisis. But they represent only a fraction of Jordanians settled abroad. The United States and the rest of Americas as well as European countries are the adopted homes for several thousand Jordanians, a good part of whom are more likely than not interested in exploring and utilising chances for investment in and also building stronger links with their homeland in the bargain.

To put it simply, it is time for us to launch a fresh initiative to build stronger links with our people outside. The starting point of our efforts is clearly the information media. Today, the foreign media is in a frenzy trying to figure out when Jordan would sign a peace accord with Israel rather than when the Kingdom might be able to regain its rights and then sign a peace agreement. Of course, we cannot expect the foreign media to do our job for us. For them, sensationalism and groundbreaking news are the priority.

In this context, which definitely brings the focus on the role of our own media, one might ask the question: Do we know what is the estimated number of Jordanian expatriates who tune to the Arabic-language foreign channel (satellite) programmes of Jordan Television, or the frequencies of Jordan Radio targeted mainly at Jordanian expatriates and other Arabs?

Have we undertaken any effort to project through these channels the economic opportunities that Jordan offers in a situation of peace, security and stability? Or is it simply a matter of launching the channels, setting routine work and then forgetting about them, with no one bothering about follow-up work on developing them as a means for communications between Jordan and its people outside? We would like to think otherwise, but then we have to acknowledge that this is the reality.

An important role for an evolving CSCE

By John J. Maresca

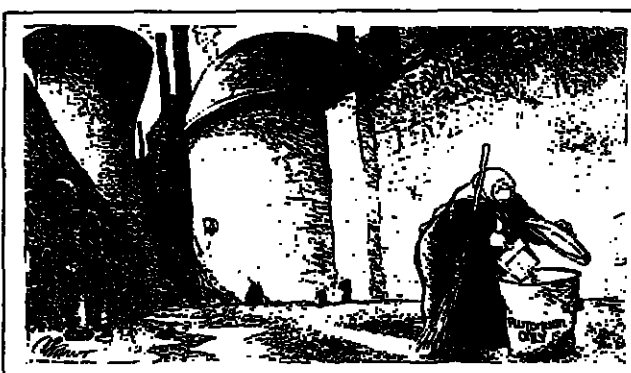
WASHINGTON — At the Paris summit meeting of 1990, when the leaders of 36 states signed the Charter of Paris for a new Europe, hopes were high that the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) would form the basis for a new relationship among the nations of Europe and North America.

The CSCE played a key role in opening up Communist societies and ending the cold war. But in the messy lukewarm peace that has followed, the CSCE has slipped into obscurity.

It has suffered in part from overblown expectations. Political leaders and national bureaucracies all wanted to load it with pet projects. Its core structure has remained weak and unable to manage these activities well. And the CSCE seemed unable to deal with Europe's most urgent security problems, in ex-Yugoslavia.

But it has been quietly building a record of useful innovation in the area of preventive diplomacy. It has shown it can help to head off the kinds of conflicts we have seen in the last few years; in this, it should be strengthened.

CSCE monitors were actively watching over the human rights of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo until the Serbian government judged them too effective



and asked them to leave. A CSCE mission was the first to arrive in Skopje, the capital of newly independent Macedonia. CSCE missions in Estonia and Latvia are helping to defuse tension between ethnic Russians and indigenous peoples.

A CSCE mission in Georgia is seeking a peaceful solution to the conflict in South Ossetia. The CSCE Minsk Group has created a face-to-face negotiating process to seek an end to the Nagorno-Karabakh war. The list goes on.

The CSCE can go places NATO cannot, because it wields no military threat and includes all the states of Europe. North America and the former Soviet Union on an equal basis.

It can shape its missions to suit specific situations, and its consensus procedures lend these missions credibility.

The CSCE has unique potential for an effective role in the newly indepen-

dent states of the former Soviet Union, since all are members and have signed on to its principles and procedures.

The CSCE, alone among international organisations, has accepted the challenge of bringing these distant regions into a real relationship with the international community and saving them from isolation, while helping promote CSCE values.

Preventive diplomacy is by definition tedious and low-key. But it is far cheaper than peacekeeping, reconstruction or war.

We need to strengthen this process. The traditional functions of the CSCE need not be downgraded. Its emphasis on human rights, openness, economic liberty, rule of law and democracy is more important than ever.

To perform effectively, the CSCE needs strong leadership and a more developed structure, and its operations should be con-

centrated in one place. The chairmanship of the CSCE rotates among member countries' foreign ministers on a one-year basis. But no foreign minister can give this job the attention it requires. Foreign ministers in the chairman role rarely even visit Vienna, the CSCE's main place of business.

The secretary-general position currently has only administrative responsibilities and no real authority. It cannot provide necessary leadership. The CSCE has virtually no permanent staff. Its institutions and meetings are scattered all over Europe. These features should be corrected and the organisation's structure streamlined.

The next summit meeting of the CSCE, to be held in Budapest in early December, will provide an opportunity to strengthen the organisation and sharpen its focus on preventive diplomacy.

Leading CSCE member states need to propose steps that will consolidate the organisation's activities in one place under a full-time secretary-general of ministerial stature, and give that position the authority to guide the organisation effectively.

The writer former U.S. ambassador to the CSCE, is a guest scholar at the United States Institute of Peace. This comment is reprinted from the International Herald Tribune.

Russian games

The policy paper said the United States and Russia "must think about the harmonisation of the interests of our two countries in the international arms markets." It named Iran as a Russian sales target, even though Washington considers Iran the primary source of anti-Israel terrorism. It also called for U.S. help to "finance" Moscow's oil and gas sales to former Soviet republics, ignoring extortionate pipeline deals Russia has imposed on its neighbours in seeking to exercise economic dominance.

critics on Capitol Hill. It could also hurt U.S. relations with the Saudi monarchy, the key American ally in the Gulf, whose fear of political contamination from a truly democratic Yemen led to the financing of Russian warplanes.

Mr. Shumeiko came to Washington for one reason: to preach the gospel of partnership with the U.S. armed forces. His 14-page policy guideline proposed a virtual Russian-American condominium over peacekeeping, global arms sales and export of military and other technology to third countries. Once the target of Cocom, the West's export control mechanism, Moscow now wants to join it as an equal.

The policy paper said the United States and Russia "must think about the harmonisation of the interests of our two countries in the international arms markets." It named Iran as a Russian sales target, even though Washington considers Iran the primary source of anti-Israel terrorism. It

also called for U.S. help to "finance" Moscow's oil and gas sales to former Soviet republics, ignoring extortionate pipeline deals Russia has imposed on its neighbours in seeking to exercise economic dominance.

Mr. Shumeiko stressed that "our peacekeeping activities have nothing in common with neo-imperial ambitions." But if the United States expects United Nations approval to invade sovereign states such as Haiti, Mr. Clinton must understand that "we have the same right to expect genuine support of our efforts to regulate conflicts" in the former Soviet Union. The document Mr. Shumeiko read did not exclude the Baltic nations from Russian pressure tactics.

"Partnership is possible only through a process of equilibrium of the corresponding forces of Russia and the United States," the paper asserted. Europe was not mentioned. To some U.S. officials, that sounds

like a Russian-American condominium. It was during Mr. Shumeiko's visit that Washington finally supported a U.N. resolution giving Russia's "peacekeeping" authority over Georgia and Abkhazia.

Mr. Shumeiko's approach to NATO's future will escalate German fears over a Moscow-Washington embrace at Europe's expense. His paper praised Mr. Clinton's Partnership for Peace, but also called the "transformation" of NATO to make it conform to "new conditions." That suggests a desire by Moscow to phase out the Western alliance and make it wither away, a terrifying prospect for Poland and other former Soviet satellites who spent the last half century under the Russian heel.

German Defence Minister Volker Ruhe explicitly stated German concerns over Russia and NATO in his landmark Berlin speech just before Mr. Clinton's visit there last month. Ruhe said Washington must state clearly that Russia cannot have a "deepened strategic partnership with the United States" and at the same time be brought into NATO.

Germany is a stumbling block to Mr. Yeltsin's courtship of Mr. Clinton. So are the sceptical members of Congress who talked to Mr. Shumeiko. But if President Clinton learns that Russian aircraft bombed for Saudi Arabia in far-off Yemen, even he might decide to slow the pace of American-Russian brotherhood.

THE WEEK IN PRINT King's European tour a major success

By Elia Nasrallah

THE LOCAL Arabic press addressed His Majesty The King's tour of European nations, the Middle East peace process, the situation in Iraq and domestic issues in its editorial coverage in the past week.

Al Ra'i daily said that King Hussein has achieved astounding success in his visits to Germany and France, where he sought support for the Kingdom's peace endeavours.

Jordan continues to maintain strong ties with the two European nations, which, the paper said, have spared no effort in securing aid to the country in times of need.

Tareq Masarweh, a columnist in Al Ra'i, said that King Hussein has maintained strong relations with the European nations, which were not affected by the Gulf crisis and the other upheavals which the Middle East had witnessed over the years. The King's brief visits to France and Germany this week, said the columnist, were vital to keep these countries informed of the realities in the region and to ensure continued support for the Kingdom's peace endeavours.

Ahmad Al Mieleh criticised U.S. President Bill Clinton for demanding from Arab states to normalise their relations with Israel and end their boycott of the Jewish state. The columnist, who writes for Al Ra'i daily, said while making these demands, the president is strengthening Israel's hand in the occupied lands and is placing Arab states on the list of countries encouraging terrorism. This does not help the cause of peace, neither does Washington's drive to secure and ensure its own selfish interest in the Arab World at the expense of the Arab Nation, said the writer.

Criticising the result of a survey conducted recently by the Centre of Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan about public support for peace with Israel, a writer in Al Dustour said that the method used and the presentation of the results were similar to those adopted by the official information services. Hisham Uzeizat said that these services have been exerting effort towards persuading the people of Jordan to

remains to be seen what Jordan would give up in return for peace.

Mohammad Kawash, a columnist in Al Dustour, attacked the Israeli government for trying to make it impossible for the Palestine National Authority to succeed in its mission.

The Israelis are blocking the path of the local Palestinian authority's drive to promote health, education, agricultural and tourists services and is pressuring the donor nations against providing assistance to the Palestinians, said the writer.

At the same time, the Israelis are escalating their drive to burden the local Palestinian authority with additional tasks in security and political matters with the aim of aborting the self-rule system, which the writer said, is a prelude to full independence.

Al Dustour daily said that Israel was working against the peace process through further manifestations of arrogance and repression in the West Bank in general and Hebron in particular.

Peace requires opening a new chapter of cooperation and co-existence but the Israelis are determined to keep the wedge between the Arab and Jewish sides, thus deepening the hatred between the two sides, said the paper.

Commenting on the controversy revolving around the upcoming U.N. World Population Conference in Cairo, Fakhri Saleh, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that the increase in the rate of the population on Earth is a chronic issue that must be tackled by the world community through dialogue and not through imposing Western nations' will on the poor countries.

The writer criticised U.S. Vice President Al Gore for linking continued Western aid to Third World nations with their acceptance of the coming conference's resolutions, saying that this is a form of pressure on the poor nations.

The right reply to calls for controlling the increase in population should be in the form of serious studies of needs of the poor countries and adoption of methods that could ensure sustainable development, said Huda Fakhouri, a columnist in Al Ra'i. The writer said that the Arabs and Muslims can by no means accept cultural and intellectual hegemony as it is currently sought by the Western powers.

Ahmad Dabbas, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab, drew attention to the need for ending the sanctions on Iraq and for the Arab countries' responsibility to put an end to the suffering of the Iraqi people.

Reports from UNICEF and other humanitarian and health organisations say infant mortality rates in Iraq are on the rise due to malnutrition and the spread of preventable diseases, said the writer.

The Arab states ought to make moves at the official and public levels to exercise pressure on the world community to end the sanctions, said the writer.

Abdullah Al Khatib, a columnist in Al Dustour, suggested that the Ministry of Education end long summer vacations and instead give the students short vacations spread over the year. The writer said that experiences of advanced nations have proved that short vacations and longer periods of work for the students enable them to become more competitive and

hard workers and can ensure their success in the future. A long summer vacation is a waste of time which said the writer, should be utilised in a manner that would be beneficial to the students and their communities at large.

هذا من الأصل

WEEK IN PRINT
s European
tour a
OR success

By Elia Nasrallah

remains to be seen when Jordan would give up its return for peace.

Mohammad Kawash, a columnist in Al-Dustour, attacked the Israeli government for trying to make it impossible for the Palestinian National Authority to succeed in its mission.

The Israelis are blocking the path of the local Palestinian authority's drive to promote health, education, agricultural and tourism services and is pressuring the donor nations against providing assistance to the Palestinians, said the writer.

At the same time, the Israelis are escalating their drive to burden the local Palestinian authority with additional tasks in security and political matters with the aim of aborting the self-rule system, which the writer said, is a prelude to full independence.

Al-Dustour daily said that Israel was working against the peace process through further manifestations of arrogance and repression in the West Bank in general and Hebron in particular.

Peace requires opening a new chapter of cooperation and co-existence but the Israelis are determined to keep the worshippers away from the Al Ibrahim Mosque and allowing the Jews to pray at the shrine, thus deepening the hatred between the two sides, said the paper.

Commenting on the controversy revolving around the upcoming U.N. World Population Conference in Cairo, Fakhri Saleh, a columnist in Al-Dustour, said that the increase in the rate of the population on Earth is a chronic issue that must be tackled by the world community through dialogue and not through imposing Western nations' will on the poor countries.

The writer criticised U.S. Vice President Al Gore for linking continued Western aid to Third World nations with their acceptance of the coming conference's resolutions, saying that this is a form of pressure on the poor nations.

The right reply to calls for controlling the increase in population should be in the form of serious studies of methods that could ensure sustainable development, said Huda Fakhouri, a columnist in Al-Rai. The writer said that the Arabs and Muslims can by no means accept cultural and intellectual hegemony as it is currently sought by the Western powers.

Ahmad Dabbas, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab, drew attention to the need for ending the sanctions on Iraq and for the Arab countries' responsibility to put an end to the suffering of the Iraqi people.

Reports from UNICEF and other humanitarian and health organisations say infant mortality rates in Iraq are on the rise due to malnutrition and the spread of preventable diseases, said the writer.

The Arab states ought to make moves at the official and public levels to exercise pressure on the world community to end the sanctions, said the writer.

Abdullah Al-Khatib, a columnist in Al-Dustour, suggested that the Ministry of Education end long summer vacations and instead give the students short vacations spread over the year. The writer said that experiences of advanced nations have proved that short vacations and longer periods of work for the students enable them to become more competitive and hard workers and can ensure their success in the future. A long summer vacation is a waste of time which said the writer, should be utilised in a manner that would be beneficial to the students and their communities at large.

'An honourable cause needs honourable men'

By Abdul Qader Yassine

Hussein stood up and said "now we are all Feda'yeen". Palestinian representatives toured the Gulf area collecting funds. Palestinian women gave up their gold and jewellery for the cause. Palestinian employees donated 5-10 per cent of their salaries or more. Other Arab nationals were no less generous. The Palestinians have demonstrated to the whole world the feasibility of being united. Our people overcame differences, knew exactly what they enacted and stood proud, all for one and one for all. Unfortunately that revolutionary condition has never existed ever since. Every route leading to anything resembling that condition have so far proven elusive, except for the first three years of the intifada. The high tide of corruption reached there too, and wrapped its tentacles around the budding revolution and poisoned our hopes.

The pattern of decay

Instead of standing on one front against a well-defined enemy, the Palestinian resistance movement fractured along lines of personality, family, tribe, ideology and Arab sponsorship. Palestine itself fell in a foggy area of the mental picture. It was never mentioned in the final communiqué of many a meeting of the various liberation groups.

Slogans dominated the field as they do now on the walls of the West Bank. "Long live the revolutionary tactic that leads to a strategy," read one slogan I saw in a BBC report from Jerusalem last month. Unethical acts of nepotism, favouritism and basic greed ran uncontrolled at all levels; left, right and in the middle.

Governments, including the Israeli government, penetrated most, if not all Palestinian organisations. Some high-ranking PLO officers worked for Israel; yet some faced Israeli jets in southern Lebanon and were mown down in their prime. In his book "Israel's Lebanon War," Ze'ev Schiff, the defence editor of Ha'aretz, Israel's most prestigious daily, describes how a group of 60 Palestinian fighters, "some of them were so young as to be mere children," managed to stop an Israeli armoured battalion for four hours in southern Lebanon before being killed. Soon the days when the leaders came and visited their fighters in the field were gone. Now the top brass in the Palestinian movement lived in high-rise buildings in Beirut or Damascus or even in southern France.

Diplomacy was in vogue well before the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon. The focus had shifted from the mission of liberating Palestine to a mission of "how can we get the Americans to talk to us?" The signposts on the road to Jerusalem began to fall one after another. The dream that was born at Al Karameh will die — it seems — at Jericho across the river

from Al Karameh.

First it was Palestine, a free, democratic, secular, Palestine; then it became the 1967 Palestine and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) buttons saying "25 years of occupation" (distributed in 1992), then "we will never go back to negotiations before all deportees are allowed to return (according to U.N. Security Council Resolution 799)" then "Jerusalem or bust" and now "Jericho and Gaza..."

This pattern was set in motion a very long time ago. Its execution has now become too obvious to hide. The bubble has burst. The stench fills the air. Our leaders have reached the end of their tether. They are consumed, exhausted and must exit. They have achieved all they could. We have suffered as much as we could stand. They are not traitors. They are inept.

An honourable cause, like the Palestine question, needs honourable men and women.

What is to be done?

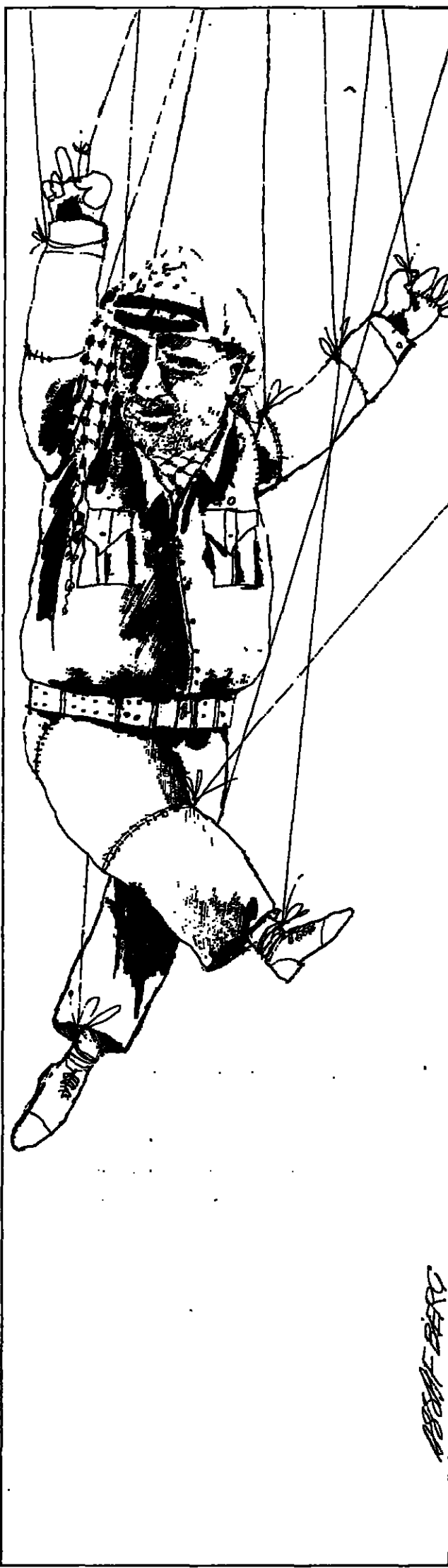
The current economic recession has affected all, the poor as well as the mighty. Banks and giant corporations have gone under. Heads of governments, ministers of finance, presidents of large corporations, have found themselves on the street. New trends in management have been discovered.

The focus is no longer on buying big machines, newer gadgets or even new markets. The focus has shifted on manpower, on the human factor, on the individual. Three months ago, Imperial Chemical Industries, one of the largest companies in England, paid £50 million for consultant fees. Their policy states that "employees are the most important asset we have."

Training programmes have been designed for all levels to reshape the character of each individual, to assign a role for each task, to hold someone accountable for every step, to judge managers and team leaders on results, not on activities or good intentions. As you surely know, the road to hell is paved with good intentions.

Mission Statements, Total Quality Management, Re-engineering the corporation are only a few of the terms in the new science of management. IBM, Ford, Shell, Dupont and even the White House (in which Yasser Arafat discovered "a new friend of the Palestinian people") are all engaging management consultant to sort their mess out. So, I said, why not Palestine? A junior officer in the American Embassy in Tunis or Cairo often advises the PLO. A juvenile delinquent writes about Palestine. A foreign journalist expresses himself on Jerusalem. In a nutshell the sanctity of our country has been defiled. And so, again, why not me? Here is what I think we should do:

1. We have to recognise and come to terms with the fact that we have lost round



one of the war with Israel and its sponsors. We must recognise that we are now negotiating the terms of our surrender. Calling it by any other name will be "donkey-ism" at its worst, like calling Anwar Al Sadat the "faithful president."

2. We have to define our mission succinctly and clearly. We have to define what exactly we want ultimately to achieve, then stick with it. A mission is the engine of the vehicle of any movement, organisation or the life of an individual. Mission provides direction, it arranges priorities and cuts through the fog of rhetoric. Mission is what people live and die for. Mission is what cements people to their leaders and to each other.

Theodor Herzl's mission was simple: the "establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine within 50 years." That was it! Ten words, no music, no IFs, no BUTs. It had the answers to "what?", to "who?", to "where?" and to "when?" What was left to be answered was "how?". To answer "how?", a strategy was prepared with well-defined goals, responsibility, accountability and time schedules. And they (the Zionists) went to work. It was not easy for them either.

3. We must restructure the individual and, subsequently, the national character in relation to principles, not things or persons. In order to gain stability and begin recovery we must rebuild our moral/ethical foundation and modify our behaviour. Integrity, honesty and trust are among the basic principles we must reinstate in our life style. It is no longer sufficient for someone to say, for example, that he or she believes in God if that belief does not lead to action or is not reflected in his or her behaviour.

According to Blaise Pascal (1623-1662), "manners of behaviour depend greatly on whether one believes in the hereafter or not." To recover and win the next round, we must build a corruption-free character.

We cannot (and should not) compete with the West and Israel in the field of arms. We should not try to build a plane for a plane, a bomb for a bomb and a gun for a gun. The West destroyed the Soviet Union by forcing it to compete with them that way.

The struggle for Palestine is much deeper than that and we can win it. The struggle is between "technology" which they have and "ideas" which we have, between a civilisation that has dehumanised man and a civilisation that upholds human dignity above all. Coca Cola, Cadillac, Dallas, sex and dollars.

Egypt was conquered by a force of 3000 bedouins. Time and again, ideas triumphed over technology. Strong morals in the hands of the poor can defeat armies at the edge of Western technology.

We are not asking for more than our people's inalienable right to self-determination, a right which every body in the West takes for granted. After 77 years of struggle, our people need peace more than any other people in the world. But we want real peace, peace that could be accepted, not imposed. The Gaza-Jericho option does not have the necessary support of the Palestinian people.

As far as this agreement is concerned, there is nothing that answers the just demands and aspirations of our people. In a recent interview in the London-based pro-Saudi newspaper Al-Sharq Al-Awsat, Nabil Shaath, "minister" of Planning and International Cooperation in the Palestine National Authority, said that "President Arafat is making history". I don't

think it is an exaggeration to say that the "history" he is talking about is the Palestinians' Versailles.

The Palestinian people have got nothing. We are still only at the theoretical level and right now no one is satisfied. In the same interview Shaath says that "80,000 Palestinians were waving flags in Gaza welcoming President Arafat". Even if this figure is true (many observers question that and put the figure around 17,000-20,000) flags do not equal freedom. Mr. Arafat has to seek permission from Israeli occupation authorities to go to Jericho. The Palestinians in the diaspora feel ignored and betrayed. "If this is the maximum that Arafat could get after six years of the intifadah, what will he get now that he is in the hands of the Israelis, on the really important issues like Jerusalem, Jewish settlements and the return of the Palestinians who have been driven out since 1948?" they argue.

The foreign journalists and statesmen who met Mr. Arafat in 1990 felt that he was no longer the man they used to know. He was incoherent, suspicious. His plane crash in the Libyan desert in 1991 compounded these traits. I thought he would draw the necessary conclusion and widen the leadership of the PLO by admitting the Palestinian Salvation Front; instead, he shrank it. Mr. Arafat probably felt that he could either sit still and go steadily downhill, because he had no margin to move and act as a freedom fighter and no petrodollars were coming from Saudi Arabia, or he could get back into action by relying on Israel and on emarking on his dangerous adventure.

The psychological aspect of this is that Mr. Arafat, being aware of his symbolic role, started to feel that if his stomach felt O.K., then the stomach of the Palestinian people must feel O.K. He thought that if he was victorious in Washington, then we were all victorious. I honestly believe that Mr. Arafat got trapped by being in Tunis, away from our Palestinian masses. He has been enchanted by the role of CNN. In that way he was imitating Mr. Sadat.

According to the Declaration of Principles signed in Washington between the PLO and Israel, the Zionist state commits itself to nothing. Mr. Arafat gave up everything, including the legitimate right to resist. Right now, Palestinians have got the right to manage the world's largest prison, the Gaza Strip, plus one cow town. It is as though the Irish in 1921 got Tralee and a few acres in West Cork, with Britain holding the entire eastern half, Belfast, Dublin, Waterford, its army free to roam at will across the Irish enclaves, themselves fragmented by British highways and drained of water.

There will be no Palestinian sovereignty and the economy will be completely subordinated to Israel's. As the Israeli economy is internationalised, foreign companies will set up sweatshops in Gaza and the West Bank, and the Palestinians will furnish the labour for six U.S. dollar a day. Members of the Palestine Liberation Army, imported from outside the occupied territories, will do the policing, just as the sepoy did for the British in India. The Hebrew-language newspaper Yediot Ahronot reported on Aug. 2 that "Israel's security police were already cooperating with the Palestinian police against extremist groups (Hamas, the Islamic Jihad and the PFLP) in Gaza."

Seventeen years ago, in August 1977, I wrote an article in The Third World Review titled: "From Dream to Reality: Portrait of a Palestinian State." Following the end of the state of quiescence that had characterised the Palestinians till 1967, the return began to acquire dialectical images, a trip forward, matching a corresponding shift in folk rhetoric. In the rhetoric of 1977, there was something worse than a West Bank-Gaza state, and that was having nothing. At least the Palestinians (so my argument went) will no longer have their noses rubbed in the vomit of foreign military occupation, refugee camps, and the destitution of homelessness.

The PLO implicitly recognised Israel when we joined the United Nations as observers in November 1974. We did it explicitly in 1988, when the Palestinian National Council proclaimed the establishment of the state of Palestine on the basis of U.N. Resolution 181, which called for the partition of Palestine. Moreover, the PLO accepted Resolution 242 and gave up territory that was ours according to Resolution 181. So it is not recognition of Israel that we object to. But we thought that we would come out better on the right to self-determination and the right to return. We thought that we might have to pay more, but we have never thought that we would be party to an agreement that pitchforks us into the unknown and gives up our last card as negotiators, namely the intifadah, our right to resist occupation.

The question of Palestine has reached a critical point. The United States and Israel have won the first round. Our leaders have failed our people and being corrupt themselves, they have corrupted everything they touched including our revolution. We can win the next round by restructuring our national resources on a moral ground. We can lead the whole Middle East into a better world by being a role model. There are not short cuts.

The writer is a Palestinian author and researcher at the Institute for Theory of Science, University of Gothenburg, Sweden. He was director of research at the PLO's Planning Centre in Beirut and Tunis. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

An Islamic struggle for Saudi Arabia's soul

By Nora Boustany

RIYADH — Saudi Arabia is the scene of an undeclared battle between those who want to bring the kingdom into the modern age and those who fear that doing so could harm its cultural identity and religious heritage. Each side invokes its special Islamic character, and the Gulf war, during which American and other foreign forces were based in Saudi Arabia, brought the conflict into sharper focus.

Since then, self-proclaimed reformers seeking a bigger say in how the monarchy conducts foreign policy and spends oil income have found in religion what they are essentially political demands for power and participation.

At the same time, as religious militancy sweeps across the Arab World, Saudi Arabia has become more self-righteous about its orthodoxy while holding its society in a straitjacket of public morality. After female American soldiers came to help defend the

kingdom four years ago, local religious sensitivities intensified, prompting a backlash by secularists. As a result, strict rules were temporarily lifted, but they have now been reimposed.

Saudi officials, who have observed the tremors of zealotry in Algeria and Egypt erupt into political opposition, note that this country can hardly be outdone in the realm of religious fundamentalism. Its rulers and most of its conservative population practice a rigorous form of Sunni Islam known as Wahhabism.

"If you look at what people are asking for, they want what is normal in Saudi Arabia," Prince Bandar Ben Sultan, the Saudi ambassador to Washington, said in a recent interview. "This is a conservative country by its own construction," echoed a Saudi cabinet minister. "Fundamentalists in other countries are trying to reinstate what was lost and what Saudis have been doing for years."

In the 1930s, King Abdulaziz Ben Saud, forged what

is today Saudi Arabia, drawing on the teachings of Mohammad Abdul Wahhab, an 18th-century preacher who developed the puritanical sect that bears his name. Since the founding of Saudi Arabia in 1932, the religious establishment has been accorded special consideration.

Now the Council of Ulama, made up of Islamic scholars, and the Islamic Judicial Court, sit "to the right of the king," according to one Saudi physicist. The appointed members of these bodies act as intermediaries between the state and the younger Islamic generation that is pushing for power. That class of mosque preachers, judges and professors has spoken out more daringly against corruption and financial mismanagement since the Gulf war, which cost the kingdom \$65 billion, and has promoted an even stricter application of the Sharia, or Islamic law.

"They have a voice," a secular Saudi said. "They are the only lobby in the country. They are aggressive, obnoxious and very

intimidating, and the government always succumbs to them. The liberals are all cowards. I am one of them."

An Islamist-oriented lawyer agreed: "The reason is not that the clerics were the only podiums available. The religious sector was the one that had more courage to take the risk and voice an opinion. Everyone is equally prohibited from demanding change."

Saudi groups in exile disavow militant piety or violence, but memories of the 1979 armed takeover of the Grand Mosque in Mecca by a fanatic claiming to be the expected mahdi, or messiah, linger.

Although calling for more openness and "human rights," reformers are seeking an even more puritanical application of Islamic rules.

A weekly newspaper called Al-Muslimun — The Muslims — once flourished with a circulation of 170,000. That has now sagged to 20,000 after attacks from the pulpit on its secular views.

While one sector of society describes the fastidious enforcement of morality as "social and emotional terror," others contend it is their religious right and duty to propagate virtue and fight vice, and even to interrogate, detain and punish violators.

A Saudi businessman who puts himself on the secular end of the social spectrum. While one sector of society describes the fastidious enforcement of morality as "social and emotional terror," others contend it is their religious right and duty to propagate virtue and fight vice, and even to interrogate, detain and punish violators. The Interior Minister Prince Nayif, said, however, that members of the mutawa, the religious police, who exceeded their limits were now being punished or fired.

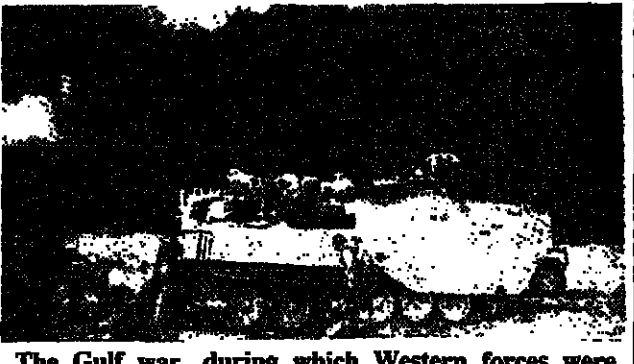
"This country is hypochondriac about its stability," a Saudi economist said.

A Saudi analysis said: "This is not a repressive society. This is not a tyranny but people disappear."

Publications distributed from London by the Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights describe scores of arrests without due process and the reprimanding of clerics for sermons considered subversive.

The Saudi government has been quietly fighting extremism inside and outside its borders and also attempting to block the use of Islamic charity organisations as channels for infiltration by militants.

"Ten major charities in



The Gulf war, during which Western forces were based in Saudi Arabia, brought into sharper focus the conflict between reformers and conservatives (File photo)

Riyadh were suddenly dissolved and ordered to stop their activities by a direct order from Prince Salman, the governor of Riyadh, the Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights reported last month.

A lawyer in Riyadh said if preachers give sermons as politically provocative, they are dismissed. "Now people are censuring themselves," he said.

Last year, King Fahd created the Islamic Affairs Ministry so the state could better control and regulate

the activities of Islamic preachers, charity organisations and universities, and streamline the work of muftis whose mission it is to proselytise here and abroad.

"Societies that raise money from private individuals abroad cannot operate unless they have a license to do so," a Saudi official said. The move followed reports from Algeria and Sudan that wealthy Saudis were financing extremist movements on their soil.

China top draw for foreign investment, U.N. report says

GENEVA (AP) — China has surpassed all developing countries and trails only the United States as the top-drawing country for investment by major international companies, a U.N. report has said.

A record total of \$80 billion poured into developing countries in 1993, and China alone accounted for \$26 billion of the total, according to the report. China, the world's fastest growing economy, was second only to the United States, which received \$32 billion last year.

The upswing in funds directly invested in developed and developing countries followed a recession in the early 1990s which saw direct foreign investment dip. In 1993 developing countries attracted double the amount invested in 1991.

The investment clout of 37,000 parent companies and their 200,000 affiliates worldwide was documented in the World Investment Report, released yearly by the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development. It examines multinational companies' influence on employment, human resources' development and industrial relations.

The power to relocate production, the report noted, presents governments, particularly in developing countries with "a genuine policy dilemma" between the need to create jobs and the need to raise labour standards.

Carlos Fortin, deputy to the secretary-general of the U.N. agency, said "it is incumbent" upon these large companies "to assume responsibility across a wider range of issues." However, he noted the report declined to endorse minimum international labour standards, including the elimination of child labour.

The 1994 World Investment Report, which covers results through 1993, estimates that the multinational corporations have global sales in excess of \$4.8 trillion, which is larger than total world trade. The companies are estimated to directly employ about 73 million people, representing about 20 per cent of employment in developed countries.

China's leap into the front ranks of so-called host countries — where investment dollars are going — was described in the report as a miracle. In 1991, China ranked

only thirteenth in the world and third among developing countries in terms of its foreign investment.

A scant two years later, it had risen to second place, leading other large developing countries by a wide margin.

China's status as the biggest single market in the world has drawn the interest of U.S. corporations, which are seeking to establish themselves in the country.

It is estimated that more than \$750 billion of infrastructure projects will start up in China before the end of the century.

A number of major international companies, including Coca-Cola Co., IBM, Motorola, Volkswagen and AT and T already have a direct investment in China.

The 446-page U.N. report, the fourth annual volume, said that China will probably remain a target of major investment. But the rate of investment growth "will depend largely on China's future political stability, the consistency of its economic policies... and the extent to which China will succeed in its transformation into a market economy."

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Export houses here are up in arms against a U.S. campaign for the recall of 250,000 Indian skirts from the U.S. market, saying it is aimed at slurring the gauzy garments and other local textile products.

An Indian delegation has left for Washington to counter the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's campaign to recall the rayon skirts from American retailers nationwide on the grounds they are a fire hazard.

The delegation will tell the U.S. officials of the efficacy of India's textile industry and reassure consumers of the quality of the skirts, now in disrepute because of the campaign, officials said.

"We have too much at stake. We can't ignore this

India defends its skirts in U.S. market

nasty tirade," said D.K. Nayar, director of the Apparel Exports Promotion Council (AEPIC).

Textiles account for more than a quarter of India's total overseas sales, which in the last fiscal year amounted to \$22 billion, and are the single largest item in the export basket.

The AEPIC, an apex government forum which regulates textiles exports, has accused the United States of using the skirts issue to impose protectionist barriers ahead of the progressive dismantling of quota systems in the post-GATT era.

"The skirts are just a ploy to set up anti-import measures," Mr. Nayar said of the U.S. consumer commission's Aug. 12 allegations that a fire started by a single match could consume one of the

gauzy skirts in three seconds. The controversial skirts sell for between \$6 and \$80, and most are marked "Made in India" under the existing quota system.

"We don't expect American girls to be stupid enough to go near a fire wearing these dresses," the executive quoted a letter written by a U.S. importer of the ankle-length Indian skirts as saying. India has ordered exporters to dispatch rayon skirts to the United States or elsewhere only after subjecting them to flammability tests.

India's textile exports between April and June this year reached \$883.26 million against \$676.13 million in the corresponding period in 1993-94. The jump marked a growth of 30.06 per cent in overseas sales.

Textile exports last year

reached \$7.9 billion, a 20.8 per cent rise over sales in fiscal 1992-93, textile ministry figures show.

Last June, India achieved 23 per cent of its \$10 billion target set for 1994-95's overseas sales of its textiles, yarn fabrics, clothing, handicrafts, jute and coir materials.

"But this trade has now scared American consumers away from all Indian products," said Apparel Export Manufacturers' Association president Shankar Mazumdar.

Mr. Mazumdar said Indian garment manufacturers would have to spend at least \$3 million to woo back American women to Indian boutiques. "We need intense publicity to clear this slur."

"They have picked on our skirts... but there are many American products which

burn easily," Mr. Mazumdar said, adding that U.S. importers too were hit by the consumer panel's skirt-alert campaign.

The U.S. panel recently gave a demonstration by setting the rayon garments on fire, but a market survey in the U.S. last month showed that only 100 of some 100,000 pieces sold were sent back by frightened users.

Mina Thakur, a boutique owner and rayon and chiffon skirt exporter, is angry with the U.S. campaign.

"Indian skirts are elegant. They are smoother to the skin, they fit well and they sit well on the hips and the back, and they come off more gracefully than their Western cousins."

"Naturally, American businessmen are frightened of our garments," she added.

Colombo stop payment on foreign contracts

COLOMBO (AFP) — Sri Lanka has stopped payment on all foreign contracts pending investigations into multi-million-dollar deals made by the previous administration. Prime minister Chandrika Kumaratunga has said.

The new government has been given a 10-day grace period by the French-led Airbus Industries to review its purchase of five Airbus air-

craft, Ms. Kumaratunga told reporters here.

"But here we are stuck with a rather definite international agreement," Ms. Kumaratunga said referring to the purchase agreement contracted by the previous United National Party — voted out of office at the Aug. 16 election.

The Airbus deal was originally estimated at \$750 million and the World Bank had reported that Sri Lanka could not go ahead with the purchase without adversely affecting the country's foreign debt servicing burden.

Ms. Kumaratunga said the previous regime had used "unconventional methods" to sign a deal with Veotech of Russia to buy second-hand armoured vehicles, transport planes and patrol craft at a

cost of about \$75 million.

She suspended the purchase of some 4,000 bus chassis from an undisclosed Indian firm at a price of \$70 million and ordered a probe into another purchase of 5,000 buses, from the same Indian supplier.

A \$37.5 million telecommunications contract awarded to the U.S. firm AT and T and Marubeni Corporation of Japan has also been put on hold.

She said \$660 million was also missing from the treasury. "The more I look at the treasury, the deeper the (financial) crisis," she said. Information Minister

Dharmasiri Senanayake said he was hoping to make a detailed statement on the extent of bribery and corruption under the previous administration, which is accused of having looted the treasury.

"It is obvious that some individuals benefitted from these deals. Wherever possible we will try to minimise the damage to the economy," Minister Senanayake said.

Justice Minister G. L. Peiris said complaints were pouring in against former politicians and officials and he expected new legislation to be in place within six weeks to try those accused of corruption.

Dollar may move a bit higher against yen, DM in coming weeks

The following article, covering the period from Thursday Aug. 25, 1994 until Wednesday Aug. 31, 1994, is provided by Naser Nabulsi, private client group at Merrill Lynch - Dubai

Overview

Fundamental View: The dollar moved up sharply to the DM/USD 1.58 level in recent days during this summer trading conditions, supported by perceptions that U.S. economic growth was moderating and by renewed hopes for more German easing later this year. Against the yen, the dollar remains stalled at the JPY/USD 100 level. The dollar could move a bit higher against the yen and the Deutschmark in coming weeks if international investors view signs of moderating U.S. growth as a plus for U.S. financial assets. But evidence of a renewed pickup in U.S. capital outflows and a persistently large U.S. current account deficit suggests that the longer-term direction of the dollar is down. We maintain our 12-month forecasts of DM/USD 1.50 and JPY/USD 95.

Technical View: The U.S. dollar was generally strong last week, posting gains against the Japanese yen and the major European currencies. As a result, the dollar index rallied 1.8 per cent for the period; this was its first gain in five weeks. This strength was enough to reverse short term momentum oscillators from down to up. Indeed, these oscillators have the potential to maintain this upward bias for the next two or three weeks. This, in turn, could well result in a turn in the currently oversold medium term indicators.

In addition, medium term sentiment for the dollar recently reached its most oversold level in two years, and — together with the momentum configuration — might well signal the imminent existence of a potentially important bottom. Given that, in each of the past seven years, the dollar index recorded important price or momentum lows during the final four months of the year, the development of an important bottom in coming weeks would have an historical precedent. Nearby resistance exists at 90.50 and 91.75. Benchmark support exists at 86.65-87.40.

Pound sterling

Fundamental View: During an uneventful holiday-shortened week, the British pound dropped a notch against the dollar. However, the weakness late in the week was enough to begin to turn short-term momentum back down.

With medium term momentum attempting to peak as well, the potential for an important correction has to be respected. In the meantime, benchmark support and resistance levels remain unchanged.

Resistance exists near 97.20 Y/U.S.\$, then below 93. First support is at 100.40-101.40, with major support at 106-112. The pound gained against the DM recouping most of last week's losses to around DM 2.42. However, renewed dollar weakness against the DM later this year is expected to carry over to the pound.

We continue to expect a 50 BP rate hike by the Bank of England in October. This could give a boost to the pound. The U.K. economy is sound on the fundamentals: solid growth has been coupled with low inflation, subdued wage rises, and retailers cutting margins in the fight for market shares. With the U.K. posting strong GDP growth with low inflation, we maintain our forecast for the pound to appreciate to 1.60 U.S.\$ in six to twelve months time. Against the DM however, the pound could depreciate in tandem with the dollar.

Technical View: The British pound declined 1.2 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Aug. 19. Sentiment is overbought and the currency continues to fluctuate within its long term trading range. Both short and medium term momentum oscillators appear to have peaked. Resistance remains at \$1.58 U.S.\$/£ for the time being. First support exists near \$1.51; the lower end of the trading range at \$1.46 is second support. The DM cross rallied nicely last week and may well have reversed its larger downtrend as both short and medium term indicators appear to be bottoming. In that regard, resistance exists at 2.43-2.45.

Swiss franc

Fundamental View: The Swiss franc weakened against the dollar as the dollar rallied against the DM. From last week's new 1994 low for the dollar against the Swiss franc, the dollar rose to SF/USD 1.33. The franc held its own against the DM at SF/DM 0.84. Based on our expectation of DM strength against the dollar and its spill over to the franc, we expect the franc to appreciate to SF/USD 1.26 in 12 months.

The franc should remain steady against the DM on the expectation that Swiss authorities would match any future German rate cut to avoid any upward pressure on the franc. The franc should also benefit from its safe haven status in the event of political uncertainties in Haiti or North Korea.

Technical View: The Swiss franc lost 2.7 per cent versus the greenback during the week ended Aug. 26 and was the weakest currency among the six we most regularly discuss. Sentiment remains overbought. Short term momentum has likely peaked, and overbought medium term momentum appears to be peaking.

Resistance remains at 1.23-1.26 SF/USD. Support exists at 1.355-1.39. The DM cross remains in its trading 1994 range. While short term momentum is constructive, medium term oscillators remain under pressure. As long as that condition exists, any nearby rally is not likely to have much staying power. Support is at .834-.838; resistance exists above .850.

Deutschmark

Fundamental View: The dollar had a strong showing against the DM, rebounding from last week's low to trade in the 1.57-1.50 range. The dollar could get an additional bounce if the Bundesbank cuts short-term interest rate. Even a small rate cut by the Bundesbank would bring U.S. short rates above German equivalent short rates. However, the medium term prognosis for the dollar is not favourable. Continued capital outflows from the U.S. and a persistently large U.S. trade deficit do not augur well for the dollar. The increased likelihood of Chancellor Kohl reelection should be a plus for the DM.

Also, with German inflation likely to fall to close to 2 per cent per year, real interest rates in Germany are likely to remain highly competitive with U.S. rates. This should help keep the Deutschmark strong. We continue to look for the dollar to trade at the DM/USD 1.50 level in 12 months.

Technical View: The Deutschmark lost 2.3 per cent against the U.S. dollar last week. Medium term sentiment is still generally overbought. Like the yen, the DM tested, but did not break, its July high. Short term momentum appears to have peaked, while medium term oscillators are overbought and diverging in a negative fashion. The up trend line from the February lows remains intact, but the technical configurations suggest that the trend is mature and is in danger of reversing.

Strong resistance remains at 1.48-1.52 DM/USD. Last week's decline brought the currency into support at 1.575-1.598. Against the yen, the D-mark recorded a minor breakdown last week. With short term momentum under pressure (even as medium term oscillators remain flat), further weakness over the near term appears indicated. Overall, the dominant 11-month old trading range continues to call the shots, with support at 59-60 and resistance in the area of 65-66.

Peanuts



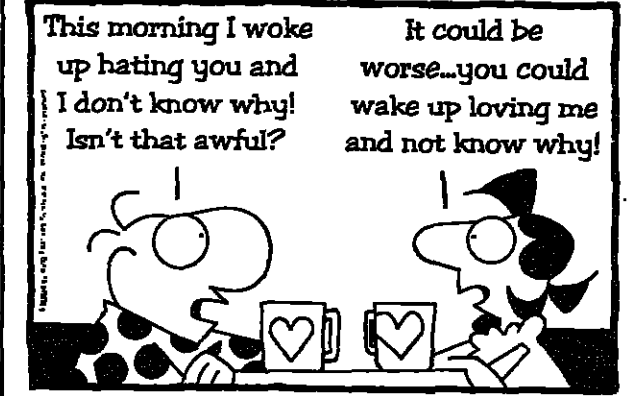
Andy Capp



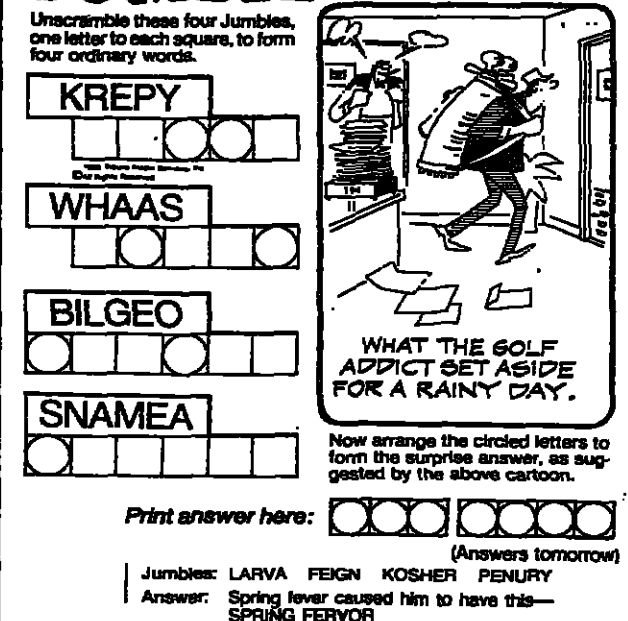
Mutt'n'Jeff



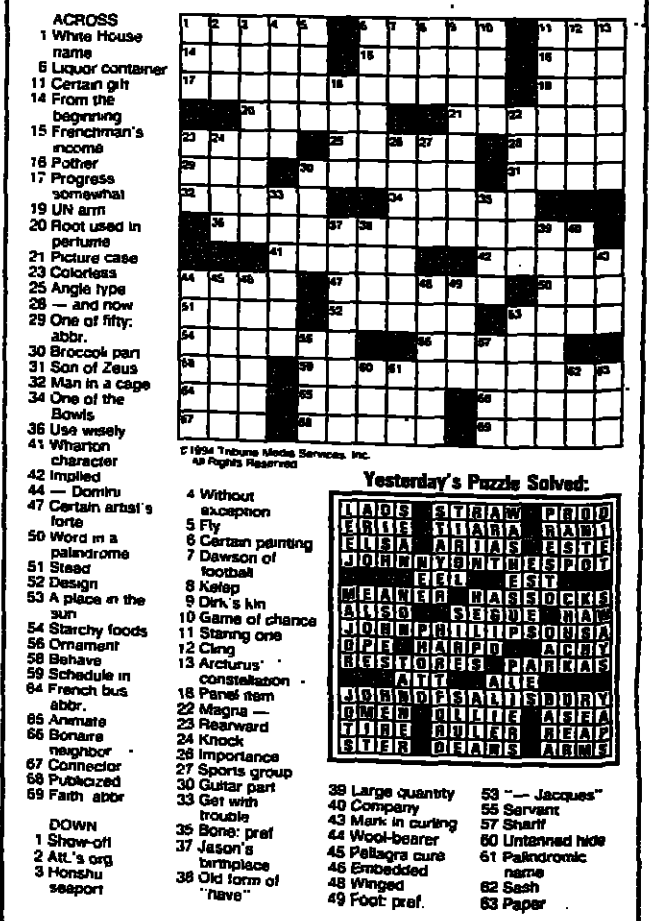
THE BETTER HALF



JUMBLE



THE Daily Crossword



Business & Finance

Jordan Times
in cooperation with
Markets Cairo Amman Bank

JR-SAT

FOR RENT & SALE
Many...
Tel: 810605 810609 810520
Fax: 810520

WALID JARRAR CO.

Tel: 75139 69077
Fax: 751681
Service 77899

HOME MADE PASTA & SALADS, PIZZA, SANDWICHES

WITH WINE OR BEER
MAMAMIA
SHMEISANI • TEL: 627122

market

burn easily," Mr. Mazumdar said, adding that U.S. importers too were hit by the consumer panel's skirt-alert campaign.

The U.S. panel recently gave a demonstration by setting the rayon garments on fire, but a market survey in the U.S. last month showed that only 100 of some 100,000 pieces sold were sent back by frightened users.

Mina Thakur, a boutique owner and rayon and chiffon skirt exporter, is angry with the U.S. campaign.

"Indian skirts are elegant. They are smoother to the skin, they fit well and they sit well on the hips and the back, and they come off more gracefully than their Western cousins."

"Naturally, American businessmen are frightened of our garments," she added.

tracts

Dharmasiri Senanayake said he was hoping to make a detailed statement on the extent of bribery and corruption under the previous administration, which is accused of having looted the treasury.

"It is obvious that some individuals benefited from these deals. Wherever possible we will try to minimise the damage to the economy," Minister Senanayake said.

Justice Minister G. L. Peiris said complaints were pouring in against former politicians and officials and he expected new legislation to be in place within six weeks to try those accused of corruption.

SCOPE

TURSDAY SEPTEMBER 3, 1994

Collegier, Carroll Righter Foundation

Make certain that you are in touch with your help with a delicate problem. Give anyone in this matter that doesn't.

19) Take time to put business and your life on a firm foundation for the help project.

20) Handle routine tasks which you don't have time to engage in your project.

21) Concentrate on ways to improve your project. Gain their aims and gain their trust.

22) You can now study your project for improvement. Have more contact with.

23) Support friends who need your help. Practical matters with them and get them.

24) Study monetary dealings with them. Be sure they are right. Make needed make it look good.

25) Morning is fine for planning. Be more considerate of the needs of your advice.

26) Get busy at uncompleted projects. Plan how to gain your trust.

27) To December 21) Allow time to be generous. Give help. Maintain a friendly and loved ones.

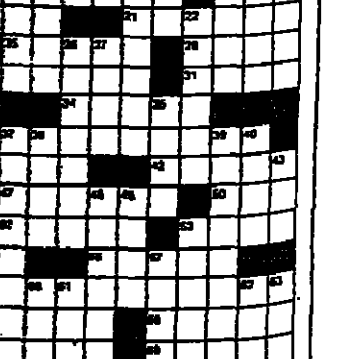
28) January 20) This is an ideal day to wish congenial friends. Show others love.

29) You can now launch a new idea in the days ahead. Take your appearance.

30) You can keep promises sensibly. Give help to work. Don't neglect routine matters.

31) Sapphire — Lapis Lazuli

Word by James Barrick



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

30 Large quantity
31 Copy
32 Mark in cutting
33 News-Service
34 Peltier's cure
35 Embedded
36 Wielded
37 Pops
38 Jacques
39 Servant
40 Unarmed riot
41 Palindromic
42 name
43 Sash
44 Poppy

Financial Markets

Jordan Times in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close Sep 31/8/94	Tokyo Close Sep 31/8/94
British Pound	1.5335	1.5349
Deutsche Mark	1.5818	1.5795
Swiss Franc	1.3325	1.3300
French Franc	5.4135	5.4097**
Japanese Yen	100.19	100.01
European Currency Unit	1.2085	1.2081**

** London opening 4:00 a.m. GMT

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.82	4.81	5.15	5.62
British Pound	4.81	5.37	5.87	6.75
Deutsche Mark	4.68	4.75	4.87	5.25
Swiss Franc	3.93	4.06	4.25	4.56
French Franc	5.25	5.43	5.75	6.12
Japanese Yen	2.38	2.45	2.51	2.59
European Currency Unit	5.56	5.75	6.06	6.56

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6980	0.7000
British Pound	1.0698	1.0751
Deutsche Mark	0.4410	0.4432
Swiss Franc	0.5257	0.5263
French Franc	0.1289	0.1295
Japanese Yen	0.0072	0.0077
Dutch Guilder	0.3950	0.3950
Swedish Krona	0.0000	0.0000
Italian Lira	0.0439	0.0441
Belgian Franc	0.0000	0.0000

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	1.8200
U.S. Dollar	0.1890	0.1919
U.S. Dollar	0.2730	0.3120
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.4885

Source: Reuters

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	1.8350	1.8550
British Pound	0.84880	0.84910
Swiss Franc	0.1856	0.1872
French Franc	0.2100	0.2150
Japanese Yen	0.1910	0.1935
U.S. Dollar	0.2000	0.2150
U.S. Dollar	1.8000	

Davenport dispatches Shriver at U.S. Open

NEW YORK (AP) — One came to say hello, the other to wave goodbye. Lindsay Davenport in her stadium court debut at the U.S. Open, Pam Shriver in her likely farewell, both lingering to soak up the moment.

There wasn't much time for sentimentality during their first match against each other, a 6-1, 6-2 second-round wipeout by Davenport that lasted only 53 minutes.

But it was long enough to see the tremendous promise of Davenport at 18 and to feel a twinge of sorrow for Shriver, whose many injuries prevented her from topping her own splashy debut here at 16 in 1978 when she reached the final and lost a close match to Chris Evert.

Shriver, a 6-footer who seemed gigantic when she turned pro and introduced the oversized prince racket to tennis, looked defenceless against the younger, taller, stronger Davenport after holding serve at love in the first game.

"I will be surprised if I get out there again for singles," Shriver said. "I was feeling very small, very vulnerable."

Davenport pummeled groundstrokes into the corners and moved fluidly and efficiently, if not quickly, around the court as she won

the next nine games. It got to the point where Shriver cursed to the crowd when they applauded a routine volley winner midway through the second set.

"I hate feeling like there is sympathy clapping and sarcastic cheers," Shriver said. "I guess I want to try and keep my dignity, not get really mad. I didn't want to cry. I don't think I made a fool of myself. She didn't cry and she didn't make a fool of herself."

She whacked the court with her racket a couple of times to vent her anger, and got a little misty-eyed as she looked around before departing the stadium. She took off her glasses, stopped, and hesitated a few seconds. Unlike Martina Navratilova at Wimbledon, she couldn't reach down for a blade of grass.

"I may have chipped out a chunk of the court," she said, smiling now with a bulky ice pack on her shoulder.

"I caught myself a little bit by surprise," she said. "I was a little emotional. You know, I think it has been an emotional few days, in general."

A few days ago, Shriver lost to Navratilova, her former doubles partner, in the race for the WTA presidency after serving earnestly in that post for the past three years. Shriver accepted the defeat

and now must accept the approaching end of her career.

Davenport's career is just blossoming, though she is already seeded no. 6 in the Open. She got to the fourth round here last year, and seems headed toward a quarterfinal meeting with defending champion and top seed Steffi Graf, a 6-0, 6-2 victor Thursday over Sandra Cacic.

"I definitely want to get faster," said Davenport, who is in a training programme to bring down her weight from 165 pounds and tone up her muscles. "I am a good player, but when I play the top players, they really kind of exploit that weakness pretty easily."

"When I go out to play Steffi and Arantxa (Sanchez Vicario) it is pretty much an uphill battle. I don't think when I go out there, Oh, I am going to lose." But I don't think, "Oh, I will be off the court in an hour." I really have to be up for those matches and play my best tennis to win. That is a lot of pressure. Those two are the worst to play. The other players I am not so afraid of."

In other women's matches, No. 7 Jana Novotna beat Karina Habsudova 6-2, 6-3; No. 10 Zina Garrison Jackson beat Paola Suarez 6-4, 6-3; No. 11 Amanda Coetzer beat

Eugenia Manikova 6-2, 6-0; and No. 15 Magdalena Maleeva beat Ruxandra Dragomir 7-5, 6-3.

In men's matches, unseeded three-time champion Ivan Lendl retired with back pain while losing 6-4, 7-6 (7-5), 1-0 to Bernd Karbacher; No. 9 Todd Martin beat Andrei Chesnokov 6-3, 6-2, 7-5; No. 13 Thomas Muster beat Maurice Ruah 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2; and No. 15 Marc Rosset beat Nicklas Kulti 6-4, 6-2, 6-7 (7-2), 6-2.

Lendl, asked whether this might have been his last U.S. Open, replied with typical sarcasm.

"It is always a chance," he said. "I may get run over by a car just outside — so may you. I'm bit quicker moving away."

Rickey Reneberg, who knocked out Boris Becker in the first round, kept up his fine play with a 6-3, 7-5, 6-3 victory over Jordi Burillo.

"I have never really done that well in Grand Slams," said Reneberg, who has been far more successful in doubles than singles. "Just because I beat Becker, no one is going to roll over and give me matches.... I felt a little more pressure today. Fortunately, he made a few more unforced errors than he usually does and got a little bit impatient."



Steffi Graf of Germany serves against Sandra Cacic of the U.S. Thursday during their second-round match at the U.S. Open in New York. Graf won the match 6-0, 6-2 (AP photo)

Bebeto says he will stay with Deportivo

LA CORUNA, Spain (AP) — Brazilian World Cup hero Bebeto said Thursday he would stay one more season with the Spanish club Deportivo, unable to buy out his contract and return to Brazil.

"I'm a person with a big heart, so I've decided to come back one more season with Deportivo and try with my teammates to win the league — which is very important," Bebeto told reporters.

Bebeto said he would return immediately to Brazil and would miss Sunday's season-opening game against Athletic de Bilbao.

He is expected to begin training Wednesday with the club, although it wasn't clear if he would be ready to play Deportivo's second game of the season against Sporting de Gijon.

Bebeto, who arrived in Spain last week and offered the club \$5 million to buy out the two years remaining on his contract, has refused to train and has been fined several hundred thousand dollars by Deportivo for his absence.

Deportivo President Augusto Cesar Lendorio said Thursday he was unable to negotiate a deal with

Flamengo President Luiz Augusto Veloso. Lendorio said he also met Thursday with Bebeto, who helped lead Brazil this summer to an unprecedented fourth World Cup title.

"We have not come to an agreement with (Brazilian club) Flamengo in the talks we've had. Therefore, Bebeto will stay with Deportivo de la Coruna," Lendorio said.

The terms under which Bebeto will play one instead of two seasons with Deportivo were not immediately revealed.

News reports in Brazil said Veloso would offer \$6 million for Bebeto's two-year contract with Deportivo. Reports also said Veloso would enhance the deal by also offering a Flamengo player and the gate receipts from three or more exhibition games.

Bebeto, who played previously in Brazil with Flamengo and Vasco da Gama, said he wanted to return to Brazil where his wife and children were more comfortable.

The Brazilian striker has helped transform Deportivo in the last two seasons from a weak club to a contender.

Indurain breaks record

BORDEAUX, France (AP) — Four-time Tour de France winner Miguel Indurain broke the world record for one-hour cycling Friday, covering 53.04 kilometres (32.96 miles) in his first attempt at the mark.

Indurain bettered the record of 52.713 kilometres (32.76 miles) set last April by Scotland's Graham Obree on the same track. Obree had taken the mark from England's Chris Boardman, who covered 52.27 kilometres (32.48 miles) in July 1993.

Both Boardman and Obree were track world champions. Indurain was used to the road, where he has dominated the Tour de France, the world's most prestigious cycling race, for the last four years.

Indurain dropped behind the early pace of Obree and was down almost five seconds after completing the first five kilometres (three miles) in 5 minutes, 43.9 seconds. Obree did 5:38.99 in his record.

Indurain whittled away at the margin. By 10 kilometres, he was just 1.9 seconds behind, and 1.1 seconds behind at 15 kilometres.

The Spanish rider overtook Obree's time at the 20th kilometre, 22:38.54 to 22:39.03.

From then on Indurain moved away from Obree's times. At the 25th kilometre, the Spaniard was 3.6 seconds ahead; at 30 kilometres he was 5.9 seconds up.

By 40 kilometres the margin was up to 16.9 seconds and at 50 kilometres it was a bit more than 20 seconds.

Indurain had just passed the 53-kilometre barrier when the hour ended. He took off his aerodynamic helmet and punched the air with his right hand while slowing down.

The crowd of nearly 2,000 at the Bordeaux-Lac Velodrome cheered him and Indurain gave a hug to his mechanic and team manager.

Indurain had prepared for the record over the past 10 days on a new hi-tech bike with special lightweight material with a carbon disc back wheel. To ride at the top speed for the distance Indurain had to adopt a position slightly different than he was used to in the Tour de France.

Dutch opt for World Cup squad

ROTTERDAM (R) — Familiar faces were missing from the Dutch squad named for next Wednesday's opening European Championship qualifier in Luxembourg, but coach Dick Advocaat has opted for players tried and tested in the World Cup.

Ruud Gullit, Ronald Koeman, Frank Rijkaard and Jan Wouters, stars of the 1988 European Championship-winning team, have all retired, and injury has put paid to Marco van Basten, Dennis Bergkamp and Gaston Taument.

Milan-based Bergkamp is recovering from a back injury. Taument has a sore thigh, and van Basten is plagued by a long-term ankle injury.

All 16 players named by Advocaat to play Luxembourg in the Group Five match were part of the squad for the World Cup finals in the United States earlier this year.

Cousteau says athletes should aspire to compete, not cheat

PARIS (AP) — Jacques Cousteau says he longs for the days when athletes competed for the sake of participation and perfection instead of cheating with drugs and money for stardom.

"At the sight of a masterly pole vault or at the finish line of a 400-metre dash... I shake with pride to belong to the human species," the 84-year-old marine explorer told the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Friday.

"But today the Olympic adventure is immersed in multiple, petty problems that must not mask its deep significance," he said at the 12th IOC Congress. "The gods of the stadium are confronted with training that is more and more severe, with the temptation to use drugs, with television and media of all types, with the powers of money, with parasites that surround them, and with the adulation of crowds. Their only protection from so much aggression remains, for most, the love of their sport."

Speaking on the final working day of the first IOC Congress since 1981, Cousteau continued criticism of money and commercialisation corrupting the ideals of sports.

"We live in a market economy where everything is for sale — champions, even teams, just like consciences," he said. "Is the adulation of crowds not enough of a stimulant, as it seems to have been in ancient times? Why, in modern days, did it have to be replaced by an eternal spirit of competition, with its cohort of conflicts, irritation and violence?"

The Olympics nevertheless provide the opportunity for the world's youth to strive for better personal performances, he said.

"Swarms of young people, thanks to the games, lead a healthier, more ardent life," Cousteau said. "Some will be disappointed, others proud. All will have participated, many will feel compelled to do better, in all fields."

Also France's sports minister warned Thursday that money can corrupt Olympic athletes, while the IOC defended aggressive commercialisation as necessary to spread Olympic values.

Money and the media can fuel the same kind of corruption that destroyed the ancient Olympic Games, said French Sports Minister Michele Alliot-Marie.

"In order to win at all costs — which is the condition of media coverage and therefore financing — any means will do both for sportsmen and the groups which back them," Alliot-Marie said in a keynote speech.

"The ancient Olympic Games died from these diseases: Money, corruption and cheating," she said.

But Dick Pound, a powerful IOC member from Canada and chairman of the IOC's New Sources of Financing Commission, said outside financing of Olympic Games and programmes is necessary.

"We seek out sponsorship and commercialisation," he said in an evening news conference. "We recognise that we can't be uncritical about it, but it is essential to an international sports programme."

"We believe we need in the Olympic movement the autonomy that comes from financial independence," he said, calling Alliot-Marie's speech "a kind of challenge, someone saying there are some dangers. I don't see it as a provocation."

The IOC already has

limitations on commercialisation, such as banning all stadium advertising and ads on athletes' bibs. Pound said. "There's a lot of promotion going on around the games, and we like that. There's no way we could promote the values of the games on our own resources."

The IOC announced Thursday the addition of the American firms UPS and John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co. as the last of 10 sponsors to join the top III Programme. They committed some \$40 million each to funding Olympic programmes from 1993-96.

Sponsorship however is slipping, mostly because of the global sagging economy, said Brian Tobin, president of the International Tennis Federation.

"The downturn has been felt in Europe, especially Germany where large television rights and sponsorship fees have fallen away, and in Japan where large Japanese conglomerates were providing much of the sponsorship money for sport and the arts," he said.

Sponsorship could wane for other reasons if the IOC doesn't hold to a high moral standard, warned one of the IOC's biggest corporate backers: Coca-Cola.

"The IOC must preserve the integrity that attracts major corporations to seek associations with the Olympic Games," said John Hunter, executive vice president of the Coca-Cola Co., in another keynote speech.

"If the Olympic movement, for example, allows its 'product' — however defined — to fall from its position as the number one sports even in the world, the motivation for a sponsor to seek association with it, becomes less," Hunter said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Belkevich gets one-year ban

ZURICH (R) — Dynamo Minsk midfielder Valentin Belkevich was Thursday suspended from all UEFA competition matches for a year for using a banned drug. European soccer's governing body announced the punishment after a meeting of its control and disciplinary committee, who banned Belkevich until Sept. 2, 1995. A UEFA statement said a urine test carried out after the UEFA Cup preliminary round match between Dynamo Minsk and Hibernians of Malta last month revealed traces of the anabolic steroid nandrolone. Subsequently, an analysis carried out on the second, or B, sample provided by the Belarus International confirmed the positive result of the A sample. Nandrolone is among UEFA's list of banned substances. Dynamo Minsk have also been fined 50,000 Swiss francs (\$37,500).

Portugal hit by injuries

LISBON (R) — An injured knee will keep Sporting midfielder Oceano Cruz out of Portugal's match against Northern Ireland Wednesday in their European soccer championship Group Six qualifier, officials said. Benfica striker Joao Vieira Pinto, who is recovering after a nose operation, and winger Paulo Futre of Italian first division club Reggiana, who is still out of action after a knee operation last year, have also been sidelined from the game in Belfast. Sa Pinto will replace Futre to make his international debut after transferring this season to Sporting from Salgueiros. Midfielder Paulo Sousa and striker Rui Costa who joined Italy's Juventus and Fiorentina respectively this season, arrived in Lisbon Thursday to join the national squad.

Jordan not to return for All-Star event

CHICAGO (R) — Michael Jordan will not take a break from his Minor League baseball stint to return to the basketball court for a charity game next week, the Chicago Bulls said Thursday. There had been speculation that Jordan would join former NBA champion teammate Scottie Pippen who has organised the Ameritech All-Star classic at the Chicago stadium Sept. 9. In a brief announcement the Bulls said Jordan had asked the club to "inform all media that due to his baseball commitments he will not be able to play in that or any other charity basketball game." Jordan, who led the Bulls to three consecutive NBA championships before quitting the sport, has spent the season with the Birmingham Barons, a Chicago White Sox farm club.

Khan stays number one

LONDON (AFP) — Pakistan's Jansher Khan remains number one in the latest Professional Squash Association world rankings. Englishman Philip Whitlock moves to two places to 10th, displacing compatriot Tony Hands, while Australian Rodney Eyles pulls level third with Peter Marshall of England in the only positional change to the top 10.

Baresi named in Italian squad

ROME (R) — Veteran captain Franco Baresi was named Friday in Italy's squad for next Wednesday opening European Championship qualifier against Slovenia six weeks after saying he was quitting international soccer. Baresi, 34, who also captained European champions AC Milan, said he was retiring in July after Italy lost the World Cup final to Brazil in a penalty shootout in which both he and striker Roberto Baggio missed from the spot.

JORDAN WELFARE LOTTERY

Ordinary Issue No. 16/1994

Drawing of September 2, 1994

Winning Tickets

Holder of ticket No. 64819 Wins JD 40,000	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 3,000 each wins JD 300 64810 64823 64919 65819 74819 64818 64809 64719 63819 54819
Holder of ticket No. 82623 Wins JD 10,000	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 1,000 each wins JD 100 82624 82633 82723 83623 92623 82622 82613 82523 81623 72623
Holder of ticket No. 27425 Wins JD 5,000	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 700 each wins JD 70 27426 27435 27525 28425 37425 27424 27415 27325 26425 17425
Holder of ticket No. 33412 Wins JD 3,500	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 400 each wins JD 40 33413 33422 33512 34412 43412 33411 33402 33312 32412 23412
Holder of ticket No. 75149 Wins JD 2,500	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 250 each wins JD 25 75140 75159 75249 76149 85149 75148 75139 75049 74149 65149
Holder of ticket No. 70334 Wins JD 2,000	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 200 each wins JD 20 70335 70344 70434 71334 80334 70333 70324 70234 79334 60334
Holder of ticket No. 74179 Wins JD 1,500	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 100 each wins JD 10 74170 74189 74279 75179 84179 74178 74169 74079 73179 64179
Holder of ticket No. 65900 Wins JD 1,000	Ten consolation prizes totaling JD 50 each wins JD 5 65901 65910 65000 64900 75900 65909 65990 65800 64800 55900

Ticket numbers	35120 51735 91438 16459 97373	win JD 200 each
Ticket numbers	44670 58634 73291 71795 45079	win JD 100 each

TICKETS ENDING WITH

3329 4929 4819 8602 Win JD 60 each	8262 5838 6897 Win JD 30 each	
662 359 Win JD 15 each	8520 4700 Win JD 10 each	
44 Win JD 6 each	9 (Nine) Win JD 3 each	

COVER PRIZES FOR THE LOTTERY SELLERS

40 covers, attached to the stub of 10 ending in	908 158 385 638	Win JD 10
-------------------------------------------------	------------------------	-----------

Winners of the grand prizes in the special issue number 15/1994 of August 17, 1994

Chief Agent Name
Tel. No. JD 2000

Sellers' Address
Bank, Postbox, etc.
Tel. No. JD 2000

House Address
Full Name, JD 2000

Chief Agent Name
Tel. No. JD 2000

Chief Agent Name
Tel. No. JD 2000

Chief Agent Name
Tel. No. JD 2000

Next Draw takes place on **September 17, 1994**

First biggest prizes are issued from GUVS headquarters

Save water ... every drop counts!

Excellent Job Opportunities

for English Native Speakers

Bilingual School in Khaldi, Amman seeks applications for teaching posts for all grades:-

- * K.G., Elementary, and Secondary.
- * First University Degree in English Language or English Literature is preferable.

Please send C.V. and application in own handwriting and a recent photograph to:

P.O.Box 830476

Post Code 11183 Amman.

AL-DANA

RENT A CAR

LATEST MODELS
AIR-CONDITIONED CARS

AL-DANA
The Name You Trust

Swaffiyah - Tel. 863091 Fax: 863092

Stewart gold
the world swim

Morceli chases Gr

GAREN BRIDGE

JAMAL
REAL E
FOR

688810

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171

PHILADELPHIA

UNDERCOVER BLU

Shows 12.30, 1.30, 6.15, 8.30

Sports

o says he will
with Deportivo

Flamengo President Luiz Antonio Veloso, Lendorio said he also met Thursday with Bebeto, who helped lead Brazil this summer to an unprecedented fourth World Cup title.

"We have not come to an agreement with (Brazilian club) Flamengo in the talks to stay with Deportivo la Coruna," Lendorio said. The terms under which Bebeto will play one instead of two seasons with Deportivo were not immediately revealed.

News reports in Brazil said Veloso would offer \$6 million for Bebeto's two-year contract with Deportivo. Reports also said Veloso would enhance the deal by also offering a Flamengo player three or more exhibition games.

Bebeto, who played previously in Brazil with Flamengo and Vasco da Gama, said he wanted to return to Brazil where his wife and children were more comfortable.

The Brazilian striker has helped transform Deportivo in the last two seasons from a weak club to a contender.

5 IN BRIEF

s one-year ban

ynamo Minsk midfielder Valentyn Lay suspended from all UEFA competition for using a banned drug. The body announced the punishment of its control and disciplinary committee until Sept. 2, 1995. A urine test carried out after the match between Dynamo Minsk and Real Madrid revealed traces of nandrolone. Subsequently, on the second, or B, sample provided confirmed the positive result. Nandrolone is among UEFA's list of banned substances.

Injuries

injured knee will keep Sporting CP out of Portugal's match against Benfica in their European soccer qualifier, officials said. Benfica, who is recovering after a nose injury, will be replaced by a player still out of action after a knee injury. Also sidelined from the game will be Paulo Sousa and striker Paulo Sousa and striker Paulo Sousa.

turn for All-Star event

and Jordan will not take a break from baseball stint to return to the city game next week, the Chicago White Sox have been speculation that the American League All-Star game Sept. 9. In a brief announcement, the club said "informal baseball commitments he will not or any other charity basketball game. The Sox to three consecutive games, the sport, has spent the last season, a Chicago White Sox

er one

kistan's Jansher Khan remains Professional Squash Association member. Phillip Whitlock moves to two competitors Tony Hands, while he pulls level third with Peter Dinklage.

Italian squad

tain Franco Baresi was named for next Wednesday opening qualifier against Slovenia in a qualifying international soccer match. Baresi, who played in the World Cup in Italy, will be missed from the spot.

Stewart gold sparkles in the rain at the world swimming championships

ROME (AFP) — Zimbabwe's Evan Stewart became the first African to win a gold medal at the world swimming championships with a stunning triumph in the 1m springboard diving here Friday.

The 19-year-old, who had trailed the favourite Wei Lan through the first five rounds of the final, pulled off a superb final dive to match the title from under the nose of the Chinese student.

Trailing by nearly 13 points on one dive — Stewart produced a near perfect execution of an inward 2.5 somersaults in the pike position, one of the toughest dives in the book.

His display earned a best-of-the-day 76.50 points from the judges and piled all the pressure onto the Chinese, who had led from the start and by a massive 22 points after the fourth round.

Wei Lan, needing to make

63.60 points to win, cracked. On the final dive of the competition he overspun on his backward 2.5 somersaults and could only manage 56.64 to finish with the silver medal.

"Going into that last dive I was actually more concentrating on holding off Brian Easley for second place," Stewart said.

"I thought Lan was too far ahead to be caught so I was more relaxed than I would have been if I thought I could have won it."

Not even the downpour that came flooding through the roof of the press room and brought an abrupt end to Stewart's victory conference or the organisers' blunder that led to the wrong national anthem being played at the medals ceremony could dampen his spirits.

"I feel incredibly elated," he said, holding a plastic cup to catch the drips in one hand, his gold medal in the

other. "I was standing on the podium shaking. It probably won't sink in until tonight that I'm the world champion."

"To stand there and watch the Zimbabwean flag going up was a very proud moment — even if it was not the right one," Stewart laughed.

"They played God Bless Africa, which was the national anthem but it was changed last year."

Embarrassed organisers explained the mix-up had come about because Zimbabwe's federation had not submitted a flag and anthem, as asked to by the International Swimming Federation. Instead they relied on a list supplied by the IAAF.

Stewart, who could manage only bronze in the event at the Commonwealth Games last month, also revealed a debt to the country he denied the gold.

"I went on a training trip to China in 1991 and the time I spent there really changed my diving. China taught me a lot about strength training and what I had to do in that area. It's certainly paid off now."

Wei Lan refused to accept that he had blown his chance of glory. "Evan has made great progress and you have to give him the credit for that," he said.

"I don't think I dived badly. I just did my average but Evan dived exceptionally."

While Evan was sheltering from the rain as best he could in the leaky building around the Foro Italico pool, his father Rob, who introduced him to the sport as a 7-year-old, was getting well and truly soaked as one of the judges for the women's 10m platform final.

Organisers finally allowed him to join his son's celebrations by postponing the event until Saturday.

Morceli chases Grand Prix bonanza

PARIS (AFP) — Noureddine Morceli can win \$30,000 here in Saturday's IAAF Grand Prix final by winning the 1,500m to take the overall title.

Ireland's European 3,000m champion Sonia O'Sullivan can take the women's overall title by winning the 5,000m.

Morceli's world 3,000m record in Monaco gives him a six-point advantage over the six other men to have scored five or more Grand Prix wins in 1994. If the Algerian wins Saturday's race he can only be beaten if one of his rivals wins a world record of their own.

Javier Sotomayor is the only one of his nearest rivals likely to break a world record but the Cuban high jumper was keen to do just that.

"You cannot predict world records. So many small things can make you lose your concentration during a competition but I certainly want to win the Grand Prix title," said Cuba's world and Olympic champion whose world standard is 2.45m.

Morceli, who said at the beginning of the year he wanted to break every world record from 800m to 5,000m, will face a strong challenge from Burundi's Venuste Niyongabo who has run the second fastest 1,500m this year.

The 20-year-old sensation has also run the world's fastest mile this season in the Oslo Dream Mile.

Britain's Linford Christie, beaten by Jon Drummond and Dennis Mitchell on his return from retaining his Commonwealth 100m title, hopes to put the record straight.

The world, Olympic and European champion, will also have Namibia's 200m world champion Frank Fredericks to beat.

Prize money of \$2,240,000 is on offer while an extra \$175,000 has been put aside for two non-Grand Prix events. The 110m hurdles pits

world and European champion Colin Jackson of Britain against his American rivals.

French federation President Jean Poczobut said they had not agreed any specific sum for a world record but world pole vault champion Sergey Bubka was expected to get \$50,000 if the Ukrainian raises his world mark to 6.15m.

Jim Mann, executive vice-president of the sport's biggest sponsor Mobil, said the recent spate of dope cases had not shaken his firm's faith in athletics.

"We believe in the IAAF campaign against doping," he said.

IAAF President Primo Nebiolo, who denied he had tried to get Britain thrown out of the European Athletic Association over the Diane Modahl case, said his governing body was ready to review its rules.

"I believe we have good rules but, of course, we would be ready to improve them," he said after a delay in informing the British about Modahl's positive testosterone case led to a confrontation with the IAAF.

The British federation said that as Modahl's appeal had yet been heard their women's team would compete in next week's World Cup finals in London in spite of IAAF opposition.

Dutch opt for World Cup squad

ROTTERDAM (R) — Familiar faces were missing from the Dutch squad named for next Wednesday's opening European Championship qualifier in Luxembourg, but coach Dick Advocaat opted for players tried and tested in the World Cup.

Ronald Gullit, Ronald Koeman, Frank Rijkaard and Jan Wouters, stars of the 1988 European Championship-winning team, have all retired, and injury has put paid to Marco van Basten, Dennis Bergkamp and Gaston Taument.

Milan-based Bergkamp is recovering from a back injury, Taument has a sore thigh, and van Basten is plagued by a long-term ankle injury.

All 16 players named by Advocaat to play Luxembourg in the Group Five match were part of the squad for the World Cup finals in the United States earlier this year, where the Netherlands were beaten by tournament winners Brazil, in the quarter-finals.

The Dutch also fell in the quarter-finals of the 1992 European competition to eventual winners Denmark.

Lebanese team shines at RJ show-jumping championships

By Rana Hussein

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Lebanese Jockey Karim Fares won the Grand Prix competition of the Royal Jordanian International Clubs Show-Jumping Championships at the Arabian Horse Club Friday. Fares averaged a low of 1.5 mistake on his horse "Zozo" in the two-round competition marking the end of the nine-contest event.

Jordanian riders Muna Sukhtian, Hani Bisharat and Ra'ed Nasser won the next three places respectively. Sukhtian, who came in second, made eight mistakes riding "Remos." Bisharat, riding "Fakher Al Arab" followed with 9.5 mistakes, while Nasser fell in fourth place with 11.5 mistakes on "Rim."

Earlier in the day, two competitions were held. The Amra competition and the Dead Sea speed and handiness competition. Of the 33 riders participating in Amra competition, only 10 made it to the final stage.

Siham Oseili of Lebanon, who collected four titles in the championships, won the first place with a 25.6 seconds after passing all the jumps without mistakes. She was followed by Jordan's Ibrahim Bisharat with 31.2. Hussein Muri from Qatar was third with 33 seconds.

The Dead Sea competition was dominated by Lebanese riders George Aboud who passed the jumps in 59.2 seconds. Oseili came close to winning on her horse "Zozo," fell short by 0.2 seconds, clocking 59.4. Paris, won the third place with 62.7 seconds on his horse "Charlie Brown."

The three-day event saw 10 countries — Qatar, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Tunisia, Germany, Belgium, France, Ireland in addition to Jordan — participating in nine different competitions.

On Thursday's, Oseili shined again when she passed 40 competitors and captured the two-phase-Rum competition. In the first stage the riders had to pass all the jumps without any time limits. Those who did, moved to the second stage where they have to cross all the barriers with the least number of mistakes and in the shortest possible time.

Oseili proved that she is capable of passing the 115-centimetre jumps on her horse Zozo.

In the Petra Club contest, sixteen riders representing four teams from Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Qatar took part. The results of the best three riders in the two-stage competition were taken. The jumps were 130 centimetres in height and the riders had only 82 seconds to finish each stage.

The Qatari team won the first place, followed by the Lebanese team. The Jordanian team was third and the fourth place was occupied by the Syrian team.

The third competition of the day, Al Salt competition, saw European jockeys capturing the first and second places out of 17 riders. In this competition, the riders had to pass 125-centimetre jumps within 70 seconds.

German Akaz Buchwald,



Photo above, Lebanon's Siham Oseili, the star of the championships after capturing four titles, rides "Zozo" to victory in the Amra competition. On right, Jordan's Ibrahim Bisharat who won the second place in the Amra competition, riding "Amigo," waits for the second place trophy (photos by Rana Hussein)



who was riding Al Abhar, won first place. Jessica Chesney of Ireland riding Salam came in second and Oseili left a Lebanese mark on her horse "Karris" for third place.

In the first day of the competition, Oseili impressed the crowd by capturing two titles. In the Jerash competition, she gathered 44 points in 67 seconds then she came back strongly in the Moab hit and

harry competition passing 120-centimetre jumps in 28 seconds. The final event on Wednesday was the Dome of the Rock competition which was won by Qatar's Jockey Muri.

Deputising for Her Royal Highness Princess Haya, Majed Quteishat, the under secretary at the Ministry of Youth, presented the trophies and medals to the winners.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAN HIRSCH

SHOW AND TELL

Neither vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH

* A J 10 7

K 10 9 6

* K J 9 3

WEST

* A K J 10 4 * 9 7 6 5 3

* 5 Void

* Q 8 4 * A 7 5 2

* 8 6 5 * 7 4 2

SOUTH

* 2

* K Q 9 8 6 4 3 2

* A Q 10

The bidding: West 1♣ East 1♠ South 1♠ North 2♠ South 2♠ North 3♠ South 3♠ North 4♠ South 4♠ North 5♠ South 5♠ North 6♠ South 6♠ North 7♠ South 7♠ North 8♠ South 8♠ North 9♠ South 9♠ North 10♠ South 10♠ North 11♠ South 11♠ North 12♠ South 12♠ North 13♠ South 13♠ North 14♠ South 14♠ North 15♠ South 15♠ North 16♠ South 16♠ North 17♠ South 17♠ North 18♠ South 18♠ North 19♠ South 19♠ North 20♠ South 20♠ North 21♠ South 21♠ North 22♠ South 22♠ North 23♠ South 23♠ North 24♠ South 24♠ North 25♠ South 25♠ North 26♠ South 26♠ North 27♠ South 27♠ North 28♠ South 28♠ North 29♠ South 29♠ North 30♠ South 30♠ North 31♠ South 31♠ North 32♠ South 32♠ North 33♠ South 33♠ North 34♠ South 34♠ North 35♠ South 35♠ North 36♠ South 36♠ North 37♠ South 37♠ North 38♠ South 38♠ North 39♠ South 39♠ North 40♠ South 40♠ North 41♠ South 41♠ North 42♠ South 42♠ North 43♠ South 43♠ North 44♠ South 44♠ North 45♠ South 45♠ North 46♠ South 46♠ North 47♠ South 47♠ North 48♠ South 48♠ North 49♠ South 49♠ North 50♠ South 50♠ North 51♠ South 51♠ North 52♠ South 52♠ North 53♠ South 53♠ North 54♠ South 54♠ North 55♠ South 55♠ North 56♠ South 56♠ North 57♠ South 57♠ North 58♠ South 58♠ North 59♠ South 59♠ North 60♠ South 60♠ North 61♠ South 61♠ North 62♠ South 62♠ North 63♠ South 63♠ North 64♠ South 64♠ North 65♠ South 65♠ North 66♠ South 66♠ North 67♠ South 67♠ North 68♠ South 68♠ North 69♠ South 69♠ North 70♠ South 70♠ North 71♠ South 71♠ North 72♠ South 72♠ North 73♠ South 73♠ North 74♠ South 74♠ North 75♠ South 75♠ North 76♠ South 76♠ North 77♠ South 77♠ North 78♠ South 78♠ North 79♠ South 79♠ North 80♠ South 80♠ North 81♠ South 81♠ North 82♠ South 82♠ North 83♠ South 83♠ North 84♠ South 84♠ North 85♠ South 85♠ North 86♠ South 86♠ North 87♠ South 87♠ North 88♠ South 88♠ North 89♠ South 89♠ North 90♠ South 90♠ North 91♠ South 91♠ North 92♠ South 92♠ North 93♠ South 93♠ North 94♠ South 94♠ North 95♠ South 95♠ North 96♠ South 96♠ North 97♠ South 97♠ North 98♠ South 98♠ North 99♠ South 99♠ North 100♠ South 100♠ North 101♠ South 101♠ North 102♠ South 102♠ North 103♠ South 103♠ North 104♠ South 104♠ North 105♠ South 105♠ North 106♠ South 106♠ North 107♠ South 107♠ North 108♠ South 108♠ North 109♠ South 109♠ North 110♠ South 110♠ North 111♠ South 111♠ North 112♠ South 112♠ North 113♠ South 113♠ North 114♠ South 114♠ North 115♠ South 115♠ North 116♠ South 116♠ North 117♠ South 117♠ North 118♠ South 118♠ North 119♠ South 119♠ North 120♠ South 120♠ North 121♠ South 121♠ North 122♠ South 122♠ North 123♠ South 123♠ North 124♠ South 124♠ North 125♠ South 125♠ North 126♠ South 126♠ North 127♠ South 127♠ North 128♠ South 128♠ North 129♠ South 129♠ North 130♠ South 130♠ North 131♠ South 131♠ North 132♠ South 132♠ North 133♠ South 133♠ North 134♠ South 134♠ North 135♠ South 135♠ North 136♠ South 136♠ North 137♠ South 137♠ North 138♠ South 138♠ North 139♠ South 139♠ North 140♠ South 140♠ North 141♠ South 141♠ North 142♠ South 142♠ North 143♠ South 143♠ North 144♠ South 144♠ North 145♠ South 145♠ North 146♠ South 146♠ North 147♠ South 147♠ North 148♠ South 148♠ North 149♠ South 149♠ North 150♠ South 150♠ North 151♠ South 151♠ North 152♠ South 152♠ North 153♠ South 153♠ North 154♠ South 154♠ North 155♠ South 155♠ North 156♠ South 156♠ North 157♠ South 157♠ North 158♠ South 158♠ North 159♠ South 159♠ North 160♠ South 160♠ North 161♠ South 161♠ North 162♠ South 162♠ North 163♠ South 163♠ North 164♠ South 164♠ North 165♠ South 165♠ North 166♠ South 166♠ North 167♠ South 167♠ North 168♠ South 168♠ North 169♠ South 169♠ North 170♠ South 170♠ North 171♠ South 171♠ North 172♠ South 172♠ North 173♠ South 173♠ North 174♠ South 174♠ North 175♠ South 175♠ North 176♠ South 176♠ North 177♠ South 177♠ North 178♠ South 178♠ North 179♠ South 179♠ North 180♠ South 180♠ North 181♠ South 181♠ North 182♠ South 182♠ North 183♠ South 183♠ North 184♠ South 184♠ North 185♠ South 185♠ North 186♠ South 186♠ North 187♠ South 187♠ North 188♠ South 188♠ North 189♠ South 189♠ North 190♠ South 190♠ North 191♠ South 191♠ North 192♠ South 192♠ North 193♠ South 193♠ North 194♠ South 194♠ North 195♠ South 195♠ North 196♠ South 196♠ North 197♠ South 197♠ North 198♠ South 198♠ North 199♠ South 199♠ North 200♠ South 200♠ North 201♠ South 201♠ North 202♠ South 202♠ North 203♠ South 203♠ North 204♠ South 204♠ North 205♠ South 205♠ North 206♠ South 206♠ North 207♠ South 207♠ North 208♠ South 208♠ North 209♠ South 209♠ North 210♠ South 210♠ North 211♠ South 211♠ North 212♠ South 212♠ North 213♠ South 213♠ North 214♠ South 214♠ North 215♠ South 215♠ North 216♠ South 216♠ North 217♠ South 217♠ North 218♠ South 218♠ North 219♠ South 219♠ North 220♠ South 220♠ North 221♠ South 221♠ North 222♠ South 222♠ North 223♠ South 223♠ North 224♠ South 224♠ North 225♠ South 225♠ North 226♠ South 226♠ North 227♠ South 227♠ North 228♠ South 228♠ North 229♠ South 229♠ North 230♠ South 230♠ North 231♠ South 231♠ North 232♠ South 232♠ North 233♠ South 233♠ North 234♠ South 234♠ North 235♠ South 235♠ North 236♠ South 236♠ North 237♠ South 237♠ North 238♠ South 238♠ North 239♠ South 239♠ North 240♠ South 240♠ North 241♠ South 241♠ North 242♠ South 242♠ North 243♠ South 243♠ North 244♠ South 244♠ North 245♠ South 245♠ North 246♠ South 246♠ North 247♠ South 247♠ North 248♠ South 248♠ North 249♠ South 249♠ North 250♠ South 250♠ North 251♠ South 251♠ North 252♠ South 252♠ North 253♠ South 253♠ North 254♠ South 254♠ North 255♠ South 255♠ North 256♠ South 256♠ North 257♠ South 257♠ North 258♠ South 258♠ North 259♠ South 259♠ North 260♠ South 260♠ North 261♠ South 261♠ North 262♠ South 262♠ North 263♠ South 263♠ North 264♠ South 264♠ North 265♠ South 265♠ North 266♠ South 266♠ North 267♠ South 267♠ North 268♠ South 268♠ North 269♠ South 269♠ North 270♠ South 270♠ North 271♠ South 271♠ North 272♠ South 272♠ North 273♠ South 273♠ North 274♠ South 274♠ North 275♠ South 275♠ North 276♠ South 276♠ North 277♠ South 277♠ North 278♠ South 278♠ North 279♠ South 279♠ North 280♠ South 280♠ North 281♠ South 281♠ North 282♠ South 282♠ North 283♠ South 283♠ North 284♠ South 284♠ North 285♠ South 285♠ North 286♠ South 286♠ North 287♠ South 287♠ North 288♠ South 288♠ North 289♠ South 289♠ North 290♠ South 290♠ North 291♠ South 291♠ North 292♠ South 292♠ North 293♠ South 293♠ North 294♠ South 294♠ North 295♠ South 295♠ North 296♠ South 296♠ North 297♠ South 297♠ North 298♠ South 298♠ North 299♠ South 299♠ North 300♠ South 300♠ North 301♠ South 301♠ North 302♠ South 302♠ North 303♠ South 303♠ North 304♠ South 304♠ North 305♠ South 305♠ North 306♠ South 306♠ North 307♠ South 307♠ North 308♠ South 308♠ North 309♠ South 309♠ North 310♠ South 310♠ North 311♠ South 311♠ North 312♠ South 312♠ North 313♠ South 313♠ North 314♠ South 314♠ North 315♠ South 315♠ North 316♠ South 316♠ North 317♠ South 317♠ North 318♠ South 318♠ North 319♠ South 319♠ North 320♠ South 320♠ North 321♠ South 321♠ North 322♠ South 322♠ North 323♠ South 323♠ North 324♠ South 324♠ North 325♠ South 325♠ North 326♠ South 326♠ North 327♠ South 327♠ North 328♠ South 328♠ North 329♠ South 329♠ North 330♠ South 330♠ North 331♠ South 331♠ North 332♠ South 332♠ North 333♠ South 333♠ North 334♠ South 334♠ North 335♠ South 335♠ North 336♠ South 336♠ North 337♠ South 337♠ North 338♠ South 338♠ North 339♠ South 339♠ North 340♠ South 340♠ North 341♠ South 341♠ North 342♠ South 342♠ North 343♠ South 343♠ North 344♠ South 344♠ North 345♠ South 345♠ North 346♠ South 346♠ North 347♠ South 347♠ North 348♠ South 348♠ North 349♠ South 349♠ North 350♠ South 350♠ North 351♠ South 351♠ North 352♠ South 352♠ North 353♠ South 353♠ North 354♠ South 354♠ North 355♠ South 355♠ North 356♠ South 356♠ North 357♠ South 357♠ North 358♠ South 358♠ North 359♠ South 359♠ North 360♠ South 360♠ North 361♠ South 361♠ North 362♠ South 362♠ North 363♠ South 363♠ North 364♠ South 364♠ North 365♠ South 365♠ North 366♠ South 366♠ North 367♠ South 367♠ North 368♠ South 368♠ North 369♠ South 369♠ North 370♠ South 370♠ North 371♠ South 371♠ North 372♠ South 372♠ North 373♠ South 373♠ North 374♠ South 374♠ North 375♠ South 375♠ North 376♠ South 376♠ North 377♠ South 377♠ North 378♠ South 378♠ North 379♠ South 379♠ North 380♠ South 380♠ North 381♠ South 381♠ North 382♠ South 382♠ North 383♠ South 383♠ North 384♠ South 384♠ North 385♠ South 385♠ North 386♠ South 386♠ North 387♠ South 387♠ North 388♠ South 388♠ North 389♠ South 389♠ North 390♠ South 390♠ North 391♠ South 391♠ North 392♠ South 392♠ North 393♠ South 393♠ North 394♠ South 394♠ North 395♠ South 395♠ North 396♠ South 396♠ North 397♠ South 397♠ North 398♠ South 398♠ North 399♠ South 399♠ North 400♠ South 400♠ North 401♠ South 401♠ North 402♠ South 402♠ North 403♠ South 403♠ North 404♠ South 404♠ North 405♠ South 405♠ North 406♠ South 406

NEWS IN BRIEF

MEA cockpit crews strike, 2,000 stranded

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Flight crews of Middle East Airlines, Lebanon's national carrier, went on strike Friday demanding a pay increase, stranding more than 2,000 travellers bound for Europe, North Africa and the Gulf states at Beirut airport. Aviation officials said urgent negotiations were underway to resolve the crisis, which threatens Lebanon's economic woes in the aftermath of its 1975-1990 civil war. The open-ended strike by 300 pilots and flight engineers grounded at least 10 MEA jetliners bound for Zurich, Frankfurt, Paris, Larnaca, Kuwait, Abu Dhabi and Tunis. MEA has 16 operational flights. Hundreds of passengers crammed the airport departure lounge, many frantic because they will miss connections to the United States and Canada. The strike was launched at the height of Lebanon's annual summer travel rush, when thousands of Lebanese who live abroad return to visit relatives. The walkout did not affect other airlines. But few of the stranded travellers were able to get seats on other flights because these were already full. Most foreign carriers have resumed flights to Beirut despite a U.S. aviation and travel ban imposed after the 1985 hijacking of a Trans-World Airlines jetliner to Beirut in which a U.S. navy diver was killed. MEA's cockpit crews have long been demanding an adjustment of salaries to cope with the soaring post-war cost of living. MEA officials and the strikers declined to disclose what cockpit crew pay scales are or how much the strikers are demanding. But aviation sources said an MEA captain averages around \$8,000 a month in salary. The company, which is predominantly owned by the state, contends it cannot afford to meet the strikers' demands at it struggles to rebuild following the war. MEA Chairman Abdul Hamid Fakhoury said last month the company lost \$5 million in the first seven months of 1994.

Hizbollah attacks are bigger, better — Israel

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Pro-Iranian Hizbollah guerrillas are launching bigger and better assaults against Israeli forces in southern Lebanon, according to northern commander Major General Yitzhak Mordechai. "Hizbollah has moved from squads to larger units of between 15 to 20 and sometimes as many as 30 terrorists," Gen. Mordechai told Israeli military reporters on Thursday evening. "Hizbollah uses mortars and tries to attack several positions simultaneously with the aim of spreading the fire... over a wide area to mislead and then concentrating on the real point of attack." He refuted claims that the army had eased up in southern Lebanon taking into account the Middle East peace process. "I am not aware of any Hizbollah bases in southern Lebanon. Hizbollah hides or mingles with the civilian population or in areas which are very far from the point of contact," Gen. Mordechai explained at a northern border command post. Nonetheless, he said, the organisation had suffered heavy casualties in almost daily encounters. Israeli forces had killed at least 83 this year and wounded a further 70, the general said. "As long as there is no political solution we have to find all the ways and means both inside and outside the zone to strike against the terror which operates against us."

S. Africa police arrest suspects in Iranian murders

EAST LONDON, South Africa (R) — Two men have been arrested in connection with the killings of two Iranian men at a Baha'i prayer meeting at a South African black township in March, police said on Friday. Iranians Houshmand Anvari, 43, Shamsan Bakshandegi, 29, and Riaz Razavi, 44, were shot dead on March 13 by black gunmen who separated them from black worshippers at Mdantshe township near the Indian Ocean port of East London. Police Lieutenant-Colonel Garry Nieuwenhuis told Reuters the two suspects would appear in court on Monday when their names would be made public. At the time of the attack police said it could be the work of the Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA), the military wing of the radical Pan Africanist Congress (PAC). The gunmen were believed to have killed the Iranians, who had been in South Africa for several years, because they appeared to be white.

6 killed, 36 injured by police fire in India

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Six people were killed and 36 others injured Friday when police opened fire at protesters demanding a tribal homeland in northern Uttar Pradesh state, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said. The shooting occurred in the resort town of Mussorie after hundreds of activists demanding a tribal state in Uttar Pradesh's mountainous Garwal and adjoining regions attacked a paramilitary camp, PTI said. The attackers were also protesting a caste-based employment quota system. Friday's violence came a day after police shot dead three homeland activists in Nainital, another Uttar Pradesh tourist town, 225 kilometres northeast of New Delhi. Witnesses said among those killed was a government official who was accidentally shot at by the police and then battered to death by the attackers. A government spokesman in the Uttar Pradesh state capital Lucknow placed Friday's toll at five and said the police opened fire when some 300 protesters attacked the paramilitary camp.

Module docks with Mir space station

MOSCOW (AFP) — A cargo module carrying food and fuel successfully docked Friday with the orbiting Russian Mir-space station, ITAR-TASS said, saving the mission as well as millions of dollars in contracts with foreign partners. The successful docking came after two previous attempts since Aug. 27 failed, prompting Russian space officials to warn that the future of the Russian space programme was contingent on Friday's attempt.

Israel asks PLO to arrest Hamas suspects

GAZA (R) — Israel pressed PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat on Thursday to arrest Islamic militants who killed two Jews in central Israel last week. "We would like to see as quickly as possible the... murderers put to prison," Israeli Housing Minister Binjamin Ben Eliezer told reporters after a meeting with Mr. Arafat in the PLO leader's headquarters in Palestinian-ruled Gaza. Israel has been demanding that Palestinian police crack down on the militant Hamas group and hand over guerrillas who carry out attacks against Israelis in Gaza or who flee there after attacks inside Israel. Hamas claimed responsibility for killing two Jewish workers at a building site in the central Israeli town of Ramle last Friday. Israel believes they escaped to the Gaza Strip. "Definitely, I tried to explain to Mr. Yasser Arafat that the accident (that) happened in Ramle... was the breaking point that happened in the feelings of the Israelis," Mr. Ben-Eliezer said.

Muslim TV preacher campaigns against conference

CAIRO (AFP) — A Muslim preacher known to millions of Egyptian television viewers has joined the campaign against the U.N. World Population Conference, opposition newspapers reported Friday. Sheikh Mohammad Metwely Al Shaarawy said in an interview published by the Islamic newspaper Al Shaab and the liberal daily Al Wafd that the conference was a "demonstration against Islam." "When I read the draft resolution, I was shocked. And then I said 'Maybe God ruled that this conference be held in Egypt so we can give them burning answers to what the draft says,'" he said. Sheikh Shaarawy, who has a highly-rated weekly television show in which he interprets verses from the Holy Quran to worshippers in a mosque, is the latest in a line of conservative and radical Muslims to denounce the conference. The Muslim opponents say the draft resolutions of the conference, which opens here on Monday, violate Islamic principles by condoning abortion, extra-marital sex and homosexuality.

Thailand detains leader of banned Islamic sect

BANGKOK (R) — Eleven followers of an Islamic sect banned in Malaysia were being transferred on Friday night to Thailand's special branch police headquarters from Bangkok airport where they had awaited deportation all day, a sect official said. Malaysian immigration officials had earlier cancelled the passports of the sect members, clearing the way for their deportation from Thailand. The whereabouts of the sect's leader Ashaari Mohamad — previously thought to be joining the group at the airport — were unknown. Sect members believed he could be waiting for them at the special branch.

Thai police and officials intercepted Ashaari Mohamad and other members of the Al Arqam sect while they were travelling to the northern town of Chiang Mai, said Mr. Ashaari's press secretary Jai-ni Jasmani.

Mr. Ashaari was separated from the rest of the group early in the day and taken by force to a government aircraft bound for Bangkok, Mr. Jasmani told Reuters. The rest followed from Chiang Mai.

Instead of joining the group at the airport as expected, Mr. Ashaari was still unaccounted for several hours later. Mr. Jasmani said the leader was believed to be at a special branch police office in Bangkok. The branch, which deals with political issues, refused to comment.

"They took Ashaari (Ashaari) in quite a rude manner, with none of his belongings or medicine," Mr. Jasmani said. "We are very worried about his condition."

The rest, including Mr. Jasmani, were told they were heading to join Mr. Jasmani at the special branch headoffice in Bangkok.

Mr. Jasmani said he hoped the move meant that immigration officials had heeded their appeal to give them a few days to prepare their departure and choose which country to go to.

PLO licenses An Nahar

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AFP) — The Palestinian authority has given permission for the pro-Jordanian An Nahar newspaper to publish again more than a month after closing it down, a PLO "minister" said Friday.

"They applied to us for the right to publish and we have agreed," Justice Minister Freih Abu Mideen told AFP.

"There is no problem. They can start again any time," he added.

The authority shut the daily at the end of July after an Israeli-Jordanian declaration which recognised special rights for Jordan over Muslim sites in Jerusalem.

It was the first clampdown on the Arabic press since autonomy was launched in the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho on May 4 and provoked a storm of complaint.

Palestinian police detain five DFLP activists

GAZA (R) — Palestinian security forces in Gaza have detained five activists of a leftist opposition guerrilla group that claimed its gunmen had fired at an Israeli soldier, activists said on Friday.

The Damascus-based Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) issued a statement saying the five activists were arrested at their homes in Gaza's Jabalya refugee camp. It demanded they be released immediately.

"The Democratic Front previously warned that the Palestinian police is taking the role which shows they protect the (Israeli) occupation. We warn these policies

Israel pledges more money for Palestinians

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel promised Friday to provide more money to the financially strapped Palestinian self-rule government in Gaza and Jericho, without mentioning a specific sum.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat made the pledge during a meeting with Palestinian counterpart Mohammed Nashashibi in Shohat's Jerusalem office.

Israel has so far given the autonomy government about 13 million shekels (\$4 million), but the Palestinians are demanding tens of millions of dollars more that they say Israel collected from Palesti-

nian workers over the years. Mr. Nashashibi said Israel promised to "clear the amounts that are due" to the Palestinians. He gave no target date or figures.

Israel radio said Mr. Shohat promised to provide an unspecified amount of money after the Jewish new year next week.

The Palestinians are short of funds because they have not begun collecting taxes and foreign donors have withheld the bulk of \$600 million in aid promised this year. The donor countries are demanding stricter Palestinian accounting procedures.

Mr. Jasmani said police earlier told them they would be deported to Malaysia, where Mr. Ashaari's teachings have been banned since 1988. Mr. Ashaari has lived in self-imposed exile in Thailand since that ban.

National police chief Pratin Santiprapob told reporters they were detained only because their passports were revoked. "This is not an arrest," Chief Pratin said.

No interior ministry or foreign ministry officials were available for comment.

Malaysian authorities banned the group last month, branding Mr. Ashaari's Sufi mysticism as a "deviantist" cult and declaring it a threat to public order.

The sect claims 100,000 followers in Malaysia and many more elsewhere in Asia and the Middle East. It believes Mr. Ashaari is destined to lead a great Islamic revival that will begin in Malaysia, sweep southeast Asia and herald the arrival of an Islamic messiah in Uzbekistan.

Al Arqam has amassed \$115 million from dozens of businesses and runs 48 communes and more than 250 schools in Malaysia.

Mr. Jasmani said on Friday the sect was not afraid to go back to Malaysia but wanted the freedom to choose where they were deported to. "Why are we being treated this way? We are not criminals. We have not refused to cooperate," he said.

In Kuala Lumpur, police detained eight Al Arqam followers on Friday for distributing pamphlets outside mosques.

An Al Arqam spokesman said another 25 members had been arrested in Malaysia's central state of Pahang and on the northern island of Penang since Thursday for distributing literature about the group.

Nearly 300 members of the group have been arrested for distributing banned material and released on bail since Aug. 5, when Malaysian religious authorities outlawed the sect.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's authority in Gaza said An Nahar pursued a line "harmful to Palestinian national interests."

At the newspaper offices in East Jerusalem, management said the newspaper should be back on the streets soon.

"The PLO granted permission yesterday and we could be out as early as Monday," one editor told AFP.

Management denied agreeing to any conditions set by the authority to return for being allowed to reappear.

An Nahar claimed a circulation of between 12,000 and 15,000 but the true figure was believed to be about half that.

At the same time, the Palestinian authority has given the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, permission to publish a new daily newspaper, called "Palestine," Mr. Abu Mideen said.



IN FULL GEAR: Libya's leader Muammar Qadhafi salutes troops during a military parade in Tripoli for the celebration of the 25th anniversary of his arrival to power. Qadhafi led a bloodless coup in 1969, that ousted king Idriss while the monarch was out of the country. (AFP photo)

Libyan 'party' angers France

TRIPOLI (R) — Libya's celebrations marking Muammar Qadhafi's 25 years in power have further soured its relations with France, the only major Western nation with diplomats still in Tripoli.

French Charge d'Affaires Alain Azouaou boycotted Col. Qadhafi's keynote speech on Thursday night after Libyan teenagers marched over the French, U.S. and British flags during a mock battle watched by the Libyan leader.

Diplomatic sources said on Friday that Mr. Azouaou, who witnessed Wednesday night's mock battle, boycotted the speech after receiving instructions from Paris.

He protested to Libyan officials about the incident at the time but was told he had not been invited to the event and was not supposed to have witnessed it, the sources added.

France, one of three Western states in dispute with Libya over airliner bombings, is the only one which still has an ambassador in Libya. The ambassador was absent in Paris for an annual ambassador's conference.

The United States and Britain cut diplomatic ties with Libya in the mid-1980s after a series of disputes.

Relations with the West worsened when Libya refused to hand over two Libyans suspected of involvement in the 1988 Lockerbie airliner bombing over Scotland in which 270 people were killed.

France demanded Libyan

cooperation with investigations into a 1989 blast which killed 171 people on a French plane over Niger.

Libya denied involvement in the blasts but the U.N. Security Council, at the insistence of the United States, Britain and France, imposed sanctions against it. They include an air and arms blockade and the freezing of Libyan assets abroad.

Col. Qadhafi and the presidents of Algeria, Sudan and Chad attended the Wednesday night rally in Tripoli's main stadium during which dozens of youngsters staged a mock battle between Libya and the West — which Libya eventually won.

The battle was shown on Libyan television with youngsters carrying Col. Qadhafi's portrait marching across the flags.

Mr. Azouaou had gone to the stadium as a result of confusion over which events he had been invited to attend. He attended Thursday's military parade but received instructions from Paris the same day to boycott the remaining official ceremonies, the sources said.

Col. Qadhafi, 52, is revered by followers at home as "a guide for the whole of humanity," hailed as a hero by revolutionary movements around the world and dismissed as "mad dog" by his foes in the West.

The dominant theme of the anniversary celebrations was defiance of the West and sanctions. Col. Qadhafi on

Thursday night excluded any handover of the two Lockerbie suspects for a trial in the United States or Britain.

"This is impossible. Like they say there is no justice in Libya, we say there is no justice in the United States and Britain," he said.

Libya has said it sees no objection to the two standing trial before a special court in the Hague.

Notable absentees at the 25th anniversary celebrations were Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak, Tunisia's Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali, King Hassan of Morocco and Syria's Hafez Al Assad.

All attended the 20th anniversary celebrations but were represented this time by delegations at ministerial level.

Also absent from the celebrations was Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat, a regular guest at past anniversary celebrations. Mr. Arafat, whose self-rule deal with Israel has angered Libya and Palestinian and Arab radicals, was not invited for the first time.

During his address, Col. Qadhafi spoke in favour of negotiations to resolve problems.

He said that while Libya supported the Irish Republican Army's cause it was no longer arming it. If Tripoli were directing the IRA, he added, it would urge it to halt its military operations if there was a chance of a settlement by peaceful means.

With India and China opening diplomatic relations with Israel in January 1992 following the break-up of the Soviet empire, other Asian states have opened more or less discreet contacts.

A brother of the king of Malaysia, Rajah Abdullah, paid a private visit to Israel in mid-June and met Mr. Rabin and Mr. Peres, although he ran into trouble back home.

Israeli state television reported a secret meeting in Paris between Mr. Rabin and the Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad in early July.

Mr. Rabin also stopped over in Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim country, last October as he returned from Beijing.

He met President Suharto, even though Jakarta like Kuala Lumpur has no relations with the Jewish state.

In January 1993, Kyrgyzstan President Askar Akayev became the first head of state of an Islamic country to visit Israel since the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat did so in December 1977.

Kyrgyzstan opened diplomatic relations with Israel in March 1992.



Volcanic mud buries village

SAN FERNANDO, Philippines (AFP) — Policemen firing guns into the air forcibly evacuated more than 4,000 people near this northern town after a mud avalanche from the Pinatubo volcano buried their village, police said Friday. The men of Manibang Pasig at first refused to leave their homes as the mudflow lapped up to their doorsteps on Monday, forcing police to scare them into boarding trucks sent to evacuate them, police spokesmen said. The mud came from the flanks of Pinatubo, which erupted in 1991 killing nearly 1,000 people and affecting climatic patterns worldwide. Heavy rain loosens the deposits of volcanic debris from the mountainsides, posing an ever-present threat to nearby villages during the wet season.

Indonesian minibus hit by train

JAKARTA (R) — Eleven Indonesians were killed when their minibus was hit by an express passenger train to Indonesia's Central Java Province, the Antara News Agency reported on Friday. Antara said the minibus, chartered by the group to attend a religious gathering, stalled in the middle of the train tracks near Kedungbener village on Thursday and could not be pushed off before the train appeared. The crash and vehicle was dragged over 500 metres down the tracks before the train stopped.

11-year-old murder suspect found slain

CHICAGO (AP) — His nickname was "Yummy." In a short life filled with abuse, he was prosecuted at least eight times for crimes before police sought him in a shooting spree that left one teenager dead and two others wounded. Officers found Robert Sandifur in a pool of blood beneath a railroad overpass Thursday. He was 11. Robert's body — not yet 1.52 metres, not quite 31.7 kilograms — lay about seven blocks from where police believe he opened fire Sunday at two different groups of boys, fatally hitting a 14-year-old girl, Shavon Dean, about 9 metres from her home. Robert was suspected of having gun ties, and two gunshot wounds — one to the back of the head, one to the top — led police to suspect fellow gang members had killed him. Authorities had a suspect in the boy's slaying. Solemn neighbours gathered around the pool of Robert's blood in the south side neighbourhood of neat yards and well-kept homes. "This is our problem," Valerie Jordan said. "The authorities and the system have failed. This is our child. The young lady that was killed, that was our baby." In the last two years, Robert was prosecuted for robbery, car theft, arson, burglary and other crimes. He was convicted twice, but, except for three weeks of detention, he only got probation. Robert was no stranger to the state's child welfare agency, either. A 1986 investigation by the Department of Children and Family Services found scars on Robert's face, cordlike marks on his abdomen and leg, and cigarette burns on his buttocks. Robert was taken from his mother and placed with his grandmother, who nicknamed him "Yummy" for his love of cookies. Complaints that she was not supervising the boy led to his placement in a juvenile facility in 1993. But he ran away. In July a judge returned Robert to his grandmother until the boy could be put in an out-of-state detention centre that permits looking in or physically restraining children. Dr. Elva Poznanski, chief of child psychiatry at Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Centre in Chicago, said she's seeing more violence among young children, many the products of abusive homes. "If you don't provide some way to raise these kids to be useful citizens, you're going to spend a hell of a lot of money on the other end," she said. Robert's grandmother, Janie Fields, became hysterical before she shut the door on reporters. "I really can't say what I'm going through," she said.